THE EXAMINER.

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NOTABILIA.

"Thus politics I look on as a part of moral philosophy, which is nothing but the art of conducting man right in society, and supporting it with facility amongst his neighbours."—LOCKE.

THE MINISTRY.

The only circumstance which would raise in our minds doubts of the permanence of the Administration, is the praise which has within the last week been heaped upon it by its supporters. "Good things," says Bacon, "never appear in their full beauty till they turn their back and be going away;" and we remark, that whenever a Ministry is in the death-throes, its friends are in paroxysms of admiration of its excellent qualities and prodigious vital force. The hour of sickness is the noon-tide of the affections, and partiality becomes doubly blind to faults, under the shadow of danger. Viewing matters according to this rule, we should read an article of sturdy praise of the Premier, in the *Globe* of Wednesday, as a production of melancholy import. So good a Minister as he described could not be long for this Downing street! Such a picture of economy, spare in every grace, could hardly keep his footing in a profuse Treasury, where he would look as the express image of death to guilty extravagance.

But our conjecture on the suspicious circumstance of vehement praise might in this instance, we confess, be erroneous; for the political love of the Duke of Wellington is of so extraordinarily intense a kind, that the common tenor of it equals the affection excited for other Ministers in their hours of peril. Mrs Malaprop's matrimonial rule may in part account for this fact, for we began with a little aversion, and his Grace has proved an agreeable disappointment, then which nothing is more acceptable or more likely to betray into false estimates of merit. The Duke may possess all those virtues and excellent dispositions attributed to him by his supporters, but we submit that they are not to be inferred from the solitary good measure which he is known to have accomplished. His economy is boasted, but where is it to be traced except in the most paltry and questionable instances? What pile has he checked, or does he meditate to abate?—what profuseness in high places and to high amounts has he checked, or does he propose to check? We will assert, without fear of just contradiction, that the undue influences have as great force now as during any Administration of the last twenty years. It will be answered, that the condition of a Minister's power is sufferance of these abuses; but we reply, that extraordinary praise is not the due of the Statesman who accommodates himself to the ordinary conditions of misgovernment. If he is not what others have been, we say, shew the points of difference entitling to especial respect: if he is what others have been, where is his pre-eminent claim to praise?

We trust that the tendency of our remarks is not to detract from the real merits of the Prime Minister—we are conscious it is not our intention, for the object we have in view is to resist a blind confidence, or an unbecoming servile worship of unmanifested attributes. The Duke of Wellington may prove the perfection he is painted, but he has not yet done enough to determine a rational judgment to reliance on his character. Neither the furniture of his mind, nor its dispositions, are as yet publicly proved; and as he is *factotum* of his own administration, he must be tried on many points before his utility can be correctly estimated. When the husband of Catalani was asked how an operatic company should be composed, he answered, "There must be my wife, and four or five puppets—that's all that's necessary." The Duke thinks himself and puppets all-sufficient, and in this case the demand on his accomplishments is great indeed, while of the extent of the supply the public have, up to this time, no means of judging. The affairs of England take a range, which decision and dictation cannot alone master. The Corn question, and many others which will shortly arise, cannot be disposed of by the qualities of decision and domineering, whose value is auxiliary to good council.

In the administration of the most important offices, there is nothing particularly creditable to the Government of the Duke of Wellington, and should it be broken up tomorrow, the Premier and Peel only could be regretted by the most earnest partizan of the Ministry. His Grace, indeed, would almost seem to have formed a Cabinet to illustrate the remark—"See with how little wisdom the world is governed." After what we have witnessed, who will say that any man is incapable of conducting public affairs as public affairs are commonly conducted? We have the Duke's own declaration, that he should be mad were he to think of filling the office he now occupies, and the public assented to the position; yet he has performed his part as creditably certainly as his immediate predecessors; and the question naturally occurs whether the intellectual quality is great, or the demand for it, for the moderate result, small.

It is a significant circumstance, that Minister after Minister, the blunt after the acute, the soldier after the rhetorician, is deified for his admirable administration of affairs. Are these lucky chances? or does the secret of success lie in the power?

When we go beyond Downing street and look at the public offices under the best of all Administrations, we do not find any very special causes of congratulation. The recent law appointments, from the Bench to Guildhall, afford slender materials for satisfaction, and the condition of one Court is absolutely disgraceful. The Ministry, it may be pleaded, have not to answer for all that is intolerably faulty; but it may surely undo what is amiss, if it be a Ministry deserving the praise heaped upon it. There should be some equity of redemption for the Vice-Chancellor's Court. There is a way of arranging these matters, when there is an earnest desire to promote the public interests, or rather to protect the public rights.

The composition of the Magistracy is the sign most indicative of the character of a Government. Where there is indifference to justice, there is that deficiency which leaves room for all the dishonesties; and if they have not place, principle is not the cause of the purity. In justice all the obligations of a guardian of public interests are comprehended.

KING-MAKING.

When first we heard that his Majesty had recommended Prince Leopold to the Sovereignty of Greece, we accounted it one of the hoaxes of the day, and not even a plausible attempt of waggery upon public credulity. Napoleon performed the part of king-manufacturer on so much grander a scale, and with such sore scandal to the world, that we thought it impossible for a pattern of legitimacy so soon to imitate the imperial example of thrusting a foreign Prince on an unconsulted and unconsenting people. But, the design seems to have been seriously entertained, and, according to the authority of the *Morning Chronicle*, to have failed only by the waver of the chosen person. The Prince is reported to have refused the proffered crown; as for the nation concerned, it had no voice in the matter—to hear and to obey was their part—a part which the Grand Seignor had in vain endeavoured to teach them, but on which the King of England must most confidently have reckoned.

One point doubtless was ruled amongst the Cabinets of Europe, that the Greeks could not be permitted so dangerous a freedom as the right of settling their own government in their own way. It was prudent to prevent any disorderly doings, and to make them a decent and decorous people, by giving them a king; but Providence had not prepared the blessing for them by the legitimate process of the loins; the true mint of sterling monarchs, and in this case no resource remained but the creation of a Sovereign by mandate of the Royal Brotherhood. Why the King of England should have had the main influence in the choice, it is not easy to comprehend; but, having it, the exercise of it becomes especially worthy of observation. His Majesty—at whose instance we care not to inquire—made an election in the closest imitation of the accidents of nature. He attempted to give Greece such a king as other nations obtain by the blessed chances of birth and royal education. *Ex quovis ligno non fit Mercurius*, says the proverb; *Ex quovis ligno fit Rex*, would have purported the example.

An unique recommendation is urged in favour of Prince Leopold's fitness for the sovereignty of a wasted kingdom, namely, his possession of an income of 50,000*l.* a-year, which would enable him to maintain his state without burthening the exhausted people. The experiment of a *Great Unpaid* on a throne would thus have been curious, but the Prince of Saxe Coburg is not the person to make it. A gratuitous Magistracy over an unsettled people, can scarcely suit the taste of one accustomed to witness the legitimate ends of ruling in royal ease and unstinted luxury. A kingdom without any immediate prospect of king's taxes is a poor gift to a rich man. But for this objection, we should suggest, that of all men in his Majesty's dominions, his Majesty's personal friend the Marquis of Hertford would be the fittest King of the Greeks.

Some of the speculations to which the rumoured appointment of Prince Leopold has given rise are extremely curious, as evincing the utter obliteration of the ideas of right and wrong, which follows in the train of an established vicious principle. One of our contemporaries sensibly objects to the rumoured nomination, the danger of involving the

King of England in the foreign interests of his son-in-law; for he proceeds to argue, in the event of Leopold's encountering difficulties, the *dignity* of his father-in-law, George the IVth, would probably compel him to lavish the blood and treasure of England in wars in which she has no national concern. What an enormous evil must this *dignity* of the King be, if it is capable of such consequences to the people. If the dignity of the Crown is separable from the interests of the nation, and capable of becoming antagonist to it, its maintenance and encouragement must be of manifest impolicy. What good belongs to the dignity of the Crown it would be difficult to instance, but we all know that the support of it is a most expensive item in the public charges. The dignity of the Crown requires Pimlico and Windsor Palaces, &c.; and has this singular faculty, that it allows of infinite increase by the means of gold, without any dependence on the condition of the people from whom it is extracted. No expenditure has other than an improving effect on the dignity of the Crown, and yet the dignity has been found sufficient when the charge for supporting it was materially less; for instance, the dingy, dark, rambling, uncouth Palace of St James's sufficed for the dignity of George III, while the difference between that pile and the gew-gaw of Pimlico is absolutely essential to the dignity of his successor. After turning over in his own mind the palpable costs of this dignity, let any rational man consider what can be its practical advantages, and ask himself what creature in the universe can be so abject of understanding as to deem the increments to the national difficulties, increments to the national honour—Who in the world will respect England the more for her royal palaces and gew-gaws? Who, on the other hand, would have thought the worse of the royal dignity, had it accommodated its state more modestly to the exigences of the public condition?

DECAY OF PUBLIC SPIRIT.

In our last number we remarked that the apparent decline of public spirit might be referable to the advance of intelligence, which had carried the mass of the people beyond the influence of the old claptraps of patriotism, though short of the philosophical principles at which the better knowledge has arrived. We threw the idea out rather as a suggestion than as a theory, (in which light a respected contemporary has described it,) and we acknowledge no paternal concern for its maintenance. Though, however, we are not inclined to defend the notion with any passion, we are by no means satisfied that it is untenable, and notwithstanding the powerful attack directed against it by the *Standard*, we still think the assigned reason, ingredient, if not sole cause, of the moral phenomenon in question. Our contemporary states,—

'The fallacy lies in the first premise, in the assumption that intelligence has been on the advance. The reverse is the case. The *mechanical art* of reading and writing has been exerted with other mechanical arts; but an age of mechanical improvement is not necessarily an age of "intellectual advance." On the other hand, as far as the experience of history goes, an exquisite skill in an universal application to mechanical arts, and an equalization of knowledge, is the twilight of that evening which closes in Cimmerian darkness.'

The experience of history cannot, in our opinion, be applied to this question, because the past conditions of the world have been, in one grand and most important particular, essentially affecting the dispute, dissimilar from the present. In remote ages, while a few nations made advances in civilization, they were liable and subjected to disturbance or complete overthrow from others in a state of barbarism, whence the growth of intelligence was never secure, its fruit not of steady increase and unceasing accumulation. Now, on the other hand, there is not a power in Europe, whose triumph in arms would occasion any material recoil to the progress of knowledge. From none of those rude shocks which formerly threw the world back can we therefore apprehend interruptions to improvement. No people in History have had the same open field for the experiment, and consequently we admit no historical observations to bound our future with the gloom settled on the past. General intellect, no matter how mean its quality, acting through time, must make its advances. Undisturbed understandings can have no relapse to ignorance, and the world's greater experience cannot but be productive of greater wisdom. The age of mankind, as of the individual, is earnest for accumulated observation. While we hold these opinions, we are far from concurring in the common-place boasts of the *march of mind*, which is, after all, perhaps, but a cripple's limp, but nevertheless an advance, however slow the movement, however unseemly the gait:—to the proof, however, of this, we are challenged by our accomplished antagonist, who is 'most desirous to know upon what ground the *Examiner*, which has a just contempt for *cant*, claims the praise of advanced intelligence for the age in which we live.'

Our contemporary has in part assisted us to the reply. He admits an equalization of knowledge, which must imply the advances of the mass of society to a line of common intelligence which they did not formerly occupy, for it will hardly be contended that knowledge has fallen back to the stragglers and sutlers in the rear of the great march. The *Standard* connects mechanical improvement with deterioration or depravation of moral intelligence. It is not easy to controvert the position, because the improvements in moral knowledge do not, like the mechanical, allow of palpable proof; but referring to the evidence afloat, in paper and parlance, we contend that, if not positively just, yet juster estimates of things and actions prevail than were common in the former boasted times. We are disfigured by two enormous blots, Mammon and Fashion worships; but beyond their pestilent spreads, the common surface of opinion is fairer than at any antecedent period. If we wave reference to observation, the force of which depends so much on the prepossessions of the witness, and argue *a priori*, we are at a loss to suppose how mechanical improvement can be made inferential of the lapse of moral knowledge. There is a relationship between all orders of knowledge, and it is difficult to conceive how one kind can advance without in some way and in some degree assisting others. We will further affirm, that the mechanical improvements of our time have served to open the minds of the people, by practically bringing home to their remark the folly of ignorant confidence. Whenever people make the reflection, "I have seen that which I thought impossible, and never, without seeing, would have believed"—they have learnt a lesson that clears the course to improvement of one of its inertest obstacles, the *opinâtrâté* of ignorance.

Having disposed of what our contemporary too largely describes as our *theory*, (and disposed of it by supposing us to estimate the common intelligence higher than we do, and thence putting some very ingenious incompatible positions of facts against over-stated hypothesis) the *Standard* proceeds to offer its own explanation, the force of which, to a considerable extent, we are far from disputing:—

'And now, as we think that we have demolished the *Examiner's* theory of the cause that led to the decay of public spirit, let us submit our own. It is in few words—the proved baseness of public men—the thorough popular conviction "that all men are liars." There can be no patriotism without hope, and there can be no hope in public affairs without a reliance upon popular leaders. It is in this way that the Crown and Anchor ranting of 20 years ago has operated to destroy the zeal of liberty; time showing "*intus et in cute*" the hypocrisy and utter worthlessness of the popular ranters—men, hastily concluding that they who use the same or similar language must be as detestably false and hollow, reject all appeals to patriotism—men seek in submission to any wrong a refuge from disgust. Interested sedition has ever borne this double curse—first to make men rebels, and then to make them slaves.'

For our own parts, we are free to confess that our hearts sink within us, when we consider the falsehood, the hollowness, the paltry trickery of public men, and the criminal sufferance of the community; but we comfort ourselves, not in seeking submission as a refuge from disgust, but in conforming to the precept laid down by a great writer for such exigences, "The utmost that private men can do, who remain untainted by the general contagion, is, to keep the spirit of liberty alive in a few breasts; to protest against what they cannot hinder, and to claim, on every occasion, what they cannot by their own strength recover."

We believe the number of thinking men, who view the great masque of public life with intense disgust, to be very considerable, and an occasion is only wanting to unite them in co-operation and give effect to their energies, which should suffice, whenever put forth, to reanimate the public spirit, and to place it on a sounder basis of reason than it has ever yet rested upon.

A passage in Colonel Napier's instructive History of the Peninsular War is, we hope and think, strikingly applicable to our subject:—

'It has been observed, by political economists, that where a gold and paper currency circulate together, if the paper be depreciated, it will drag down the gold with it, and deteriorate the whole mass; but that after a time, the metal revolts from this unnatural state, and asserts its own intrinsic superiority. So a privileged class, corrupted by power and luxury, drags down the natural character; but *there is a point, when the people, like the gold, no longer suffering such a degradation, will separate themselves with violence from the vices of their effeminate rulers. Before that time arrives, a nation may appear to be sunk in hopeless lethargy, when it is really capable of great and noble exertions.*'

A lady of respectability was this week summoned to Bow Street on the charge of a hackney-coachman, who swore that she had broke one of the glasses of his coach. The lady positively denied the fact, and Sir Richard Birnie expressed his belief of her representation, but declared he was bound to act upon the oath of the complainant, which he disbelieved, and accordingly adjudged compensation for the alleged damage. This is some of the handiwork of our precious Collective Wisdom. The oath of a hackney-coachman is to prevail, it seems, against all probability. The morals of the Jarvies must be excellent, if they prevail against the temptation and ever allow them to be the

losers by broken glass, when so simple an operation as an oath will fix the damage on the fare. Nay, by a little easy arrangement between the coachmen and the coachmakers, it might be found worth while to swear one or two glasses against every fare. Broken glass might thus be turned to a good trade. Of course, the adjudication on the Jarvy's oath is conclusive.

We extremely regret having, in our last Literary Examiner, attributed to Lord Holland an illiberal expression which, on better recollection, we remember to have proceeded from Lord Lansdown.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

Drury Lane.

On Tuesday, Madame Vestris and the Siamese Twins were announced to make their appearance at this house; Madame Vestris in *Artaxerxes*, and the Boys in Lord Chesterfield's box. Of the two points of attraction, the manager or proprietor (both apparently being equally elegant in mind) evidently calculated upon making the best hit with the latter, for the town was saturated with large bills, announcing their intended advent: "no orders" were to be admitted, (we however witnessed a number of people going in at a wrong entrance to be of benefit to the treasury) and it became a matter of speculation which would draw the larger portion of the audience. To judge from the quantity of approbation at the appearance of the three candidates, we should pronounce decidedly in favour of Madame Vestris, for several people did not appreciate Mr Price's intention in thus dividing popularity with a favourite singer and an unnatural birth. Madame Vestris, we should therefore say, was not deserted upon the occasion; though we would not answer for her not being in the minority, could the Hottentot Venus or the Skeleton-man (Seurat) have been added to the show. To be serious—all this vulgar clawing of the rabble into the house by hook or by crook, may be expected at a booth in Bartholomew Fair, but here it was in vile taste, and, which was worse, laid bare "the nakedness of the land." Madame Vestris, with her shrewd eye and good sense, must have been in raptures with the quality of her rivals and her own triumph. After this, the manager can scarcely anticipate a royal visit to his house. Think of the King or any of his family being placarded about the streets in common with two poor lads, whose monstrous birth alone has made them a raree show! To cut the affair short, it was as vulgar as it was impolitic. John Kemble would have played to three cook-maids and a turnspit rather than have induced a fifth person to come to his house by such means.

The Opera of *Artaxerxes* was perhaps never more inefficiently performed than upon the present occasion. For Madame Vestris some apology is due for singing out of tune the whole evening; that of being unwell. But Mr Sinclair was out of tune too; as for Mr Bedford, "it were a mercy of God," (as old Isaac Walton would say) to hear him sing one bar decently either in style or tune. We never witnessed such an exhibition as his *Artabanes*. Miss Betts performed the part of *Mandane;* her chief merit lies in cluttering out a horde of notes with all the ease and volubility of a ventilator (and these not correctly expressed) regardless of the character or sentiment of the air she is singing. This accomplishment she displays upon every available occasion; consequently she totally spoiled, as might be anticipated, the most charming air in the whole Opera—"If o'er the cruel tyrant." To give an opinion, upon reflection, we never heard this air worse sung in public, as regards correct reading (for, with the professional presumption of the singers, she vouchsafed to alter Dr Arne's music) correct feeling, and correct expression. With what pathetic and maiden-like simplicity did Miss Stephens, in the spring time of her fame, pour forth this charming air; the rich and weighty tones bubbling up, and dropping from her mouth, like the pearls from that of the Fairy Princess. But Miss Stephens feels what belongs to true pathos, or she never could have given the effect she uniformly did to such airs as "Farewell, ye limpid springs," "Hide me from day's garish eye," the old plaintive melodies in the *Beggar's Opera*, and "Auld Robin Gray." When rapid execution and ornament were her cue, she was never at a loss, and we have heard her fling out "The Soldier tir'd" in a triumphant style.

After the Opera of *Artaxerxes*, we were induced, principally in compliment to Mr Farren, to sit out the performance of *The Citizen*. We expected to be amused with his *Old Philpot*, and were not disappointed. It was a capital personification of a wilted, sinew-shrunk old hunks—a mummy tradesman. How his face lighted up, and how he chuckled in admiration of the thrifty *Mr Thomas Inkle*, who sold his benefactress for a slave, and raised his price when she appealed to his humanity because she was with child by him. It is worth the while to notice Mr Farren's minuteness in attending to the details of character. Observe his mode of using his handkerchief in *Lord Ogleby*; it is displayed with an easy negligence, as though it were an airy and ornamental part of his dress, like the Corinthian capital to his boudoir accomplishments: he passes it to his face tenderly, and apparently for no other purpose than to supply the deficiency of a sigh from a parterre of odorous blossoms. His cephalic snuff, so far from vulgarising the appendage, only affords him an opportunity of varying his grace and air in the management of it. He blows his nose as if it were an affair of superfluous elegance, and not of necessity—it is all in keeping with the "nice conduct of his clouded cane." He takes no snuff in *Old Philpot;* that would be out of character with the hugger-mugger; and when he uses his handkerchief (which he does but once) he clenches the linen in his fist as a baboon would an apple, and devotes no larger portion of it to his purpose than a man would turn down of the leaf of a book. These are the things which give proof of an actor's having studied the *morale* of his part; and which after all redeem the inordinate vulgarity of the English playhouses.

Mr Harley was extremely amusing in *Young Philpot*. The great charm of his acting is, that he always appears to be an amateur performer, and that all his arabesque flourishes are only so many vagaries committed for his own gratification.

Madame Vestris made *Maria* look and act like a pert chambermaid. If she had ever seen Mrs Davidson, when she was Miss Duncan, in the character, and had determined upon imitating some one, that admirable actress would have formed a better study for her, upon the occasion, than Miss Kelly—eminent as she is in her own peculiar line.

When Mr J. Vining personates a young man of fashion—such as a man of fashion should be—it were better not to mistake swinging his arms about like flails, for a gentleman-like ease, or to swagger into a drawing-room like a rider into an alehouse. We never behold that gentleman enter a parlour, but (in fancy) we hear behind him the—*qurry—qurry—qurry, bang* of the swing door.

Covent Garden.

The learned disciples of Gall and Spurzheim were doubtless scandalized by the announcement of a farce entitled *The Phrenologists;* but being ourselves but half converts to the system, we attended this theatre in expectation of a hearty laugh, and were not disappointed; indeed, although the main incidents of this little piece have neither originality nor probability to recommend them; yet, for a bustling, whimsical, mirth-provoking farce, we have not for some time seen its equal produced. As may be deduced from the title, the plot is founded upon the vagaries of a phrenologist—a *Mr Cranium* (Blanchard), and his man *Sampson* (Keeley). A rakish nephew (Balls), assisted by his roguish servant (Wrench), introduces himself into the house as an amateur professor of the science; but, in reality, to make love to his uncle's fair daughter *Clarinda* (Miss Lawrence). The father of the young man, however (Bartley), pursues him with a view to reclaim the runaway's services to his counting-house; and the lover in this extremity imposes his own father upon *Cranium*, as the madman he expected for a subject of phrenological examination. *Cranium*, not having seen his brother for twenty years, is easily led to adopt this opinion; more especially as the irritable merchant becomes outrageous at meeting with such a reception from his brother and son—subsequently they confine him in a lone room, and a grand attack is made upon him by all the inmates of the house, male and female, the latter armed with poker, shovel, and tongs. After submitting, *par force*, to their scientific foolery, the maltreated relative succeeds in escaping from his plagues; and in revenge, brings the *posse comitatis* upon his tormentors; but the young people, having in the interim effected a marriage, the brothers are reconciled and the couples pair off; the amatory organs preponderating so greatly in this small family, that no fewer than six turtle-doves are united.

Keeley's peculiar humour was admirably suited to display the bemuzzed faculties of a dolt, who serves a master almost as besotted in his crazy humour as *Old Cockletop*; and Blanchard, by the rolling of his eyes and twisting of his mouth, looked nearly as moon-struck and gullable as his great prototype Munden. Mr Balls played the "lively rattle," both genteelly and pleasantly; Mrs Humphries, as the remonstrating housekeeper, was very amusing; especially in the scene where she is forced, "will I, will I," to submit her pericranium for scientific inspection;—indeed all the performers exerted themselves to the utmost to render this trifle effective, and the piece was loudly cheered by a merry audience, when announced for repetition on Thursday.

MUSIC.

"The Minstrel Strain." The Poetry by Sir Walter Scott; the Music by H. Craggs.

Mr Craggs has displayed good taste in selecting these sensible and well written words, which remind us of Burns' simple yet manly effusions; and has adapted them with considerable feeling and musician-like skill. The *appoggiatura* on the chord of the second, at the word "saddened,"

is expressive and masterly; as is also the mode in which the B flat is introduced in the bass at the fifth bar of the vocal part. The composer might have avoided one oversight of consecutive fifths between the last chord of the tenth bar and the first chord of the succeeding one, had he continued the A as the lowest note of the chord, instead of making it rise to D at the same time that the E in the preceding chord rises to A. Where the chord of the sharp second also occurs at the eighth bar of the second page, we should have preferred the effect, if the A had been retained, or the F sharp had been added to the chord, as forming a part of the harmony, instead of leaving the imperfect fifth of the D sharp and A entirely naked, as it is at present. The pedal point on the A in the lowest score of the second page is excellent. We should have preferred the chord of the seventh instead of the common chord at the last cadence which occurs in the ninth bar of page three. Notwithstanding the slight defects we have pointed out above, we consider this production altogether a very favourable specimen of Mr Craggs' musical abilities, of which we should be pleased to have more frequent opportunities of expressing our opinion.

"*Glide, gently glide.*" *The Music arranged by C. Cope Temple, Esq.*

A pleasant little melody, judiciously adapted to the words, and tastefully accompanied.

"*Oh list to the sound of my Lute.*" *By the same.*

Mr Temple has acknowledged that he has taken the subject of this song from Haydn; but he has omitted to state that it is from the finale of the Sinfonia in B flat, one of the twelve admirable compositions which Haydn wrote for Salomon's concerts at the time he visited England. We have already expressed our opinion of the excellent plan to which some of our tasteful admirers of the great masters have resorted, of adapting words to the charming melodies to be found in their instrumental productions; but we think that the adapters would do well at the time that they borrow these beautiful *Motivos*, if they were to acknowledge their obligations more distinctly, by pointing out the identical compositions or works whence they have made their selections. By this mode a greater interest would be given to the vocal adaptation, more justice would be rendered both to the original composer and to the adapter, by enabling the public to judge what alterations or improvements had been made by the latter to the former; and at the same time would conduce to the diffusion of a better taste, by drawing the attention of the lovers of music to the pieces in their original form, with which they might probably never have become acquainted, had not their notice been attracted by the publication of these melodies in their new form. The present arrangement consists of a portion only of the finale alluded to, transposed to the key of E four sharps, but the adaptation is clever, and free from any objection, both as respects the melody and the harmony.

"*Fill the Goblet.*" *A Bacchanalian Song. Composed by T. Severn.*

This song consists of three movements: the 1st an allegro con spirito in common time; the 2nd an andante in $\frac{6}{8}$, the Italian direction of which amused us, "con amoroso expressione." If Mr S. be brother to the clever artist now in Rome, let him enquire of him, when next he writes, whether this be correct Italian. The 3rd movement, a return to the original one in allegro time. We have noticed one oversight in the last and penultimate bars of the first page, where the D rises to E in the lowest part of the chord forming a consecution of octaves with the bass, between the chord of the 6th on D, and the chord of the $\frac{6}{4}$ on E. This little grammatical defect might have been easily obviated by doubling the 6th instead of the octave in the chord which occurs in D. The air itself is written with considerable energy and spirit, and is evidently intended to be sung by a bass voice, although it is written in the treble clef. The style reminds us of some of Storace's bass songs, which used to be sung in so unaffected and simply natural a manner by Sedowick; and, both in its construction and mode of accompaniment, is very creditable to Mr Severn's talents as a composer.

FINE ARTS.

Friendship's Offering, a Literary Album for 1830.—It is almost too late to notice the embellishments in this elegant little Annual, which have now been so many weeks before the public eye; but we will nevertheless say a few words about them, if only to show that we endeavour to do justice, however tardy, to the meritorious artists engaged in the work.—The frontispiece, *Lyra*, well engraved by Mr Dean in the mixed chalk and line styles, represents a young girl playing upon the lyre. Her expression is animated, her action is graceful, and her flowing ringlets are most becomingly disposed. Mr Wood, the painter of this picture, has two other subjects in this work,—*Mine own*, a lady gathering flowers, which is brightly engraved by Mr J. C. Edwards, though the drapery is not very well cut;—and the *Honey-moon*, which is a highly pleasing composition. It represents the Queen of Love giving advice to the newly wedded Cupid and Psyche. The face of the goddess is somewhat deficient in beauty, but her form and attitude are charming; and the little bride and bridegroom kneel and sit before her most gracefully. We object, however, to their extreme infancy: they look rather like the consequences of a honey-moon than the chief actors in it. Mr Wood is a rising young artist; he possesses a poetic imagination and taste; and if he still continues to think himself a student, works hard, looks attentively at select Nature, and at the performances of such men as Titian, Georgione, and Vandyke, rather than those of Sir Thomas Lawrence (clever as they are) he will one of these days "do the *Arts* some service," unless we are much mistaken.—*Vesuvius*, engraved by Mr Jeavons from a painting by Mr Turner, is a representation of that grand scene, the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The heavens and sea are magnificently lighted up, while Naples seems silently expecting some awful catastrophe.—*Echo*, charmingly engraved by Mr E. Goodall from a painting by Mr Arnald, is a tasteful landscape, where vale and wood and mountain and water are happily combined to form a retreat for Echo and her nymphs. A little dramatic scene, very poetically treated, accompanies this print.—*Reading the News*, is an admirable group by Wilkie. An overloaded boat (so Mr C. Knight's well-told tale informs us) was overset in the Thames, near Runnemede, by which nine persons, mostly women and children, perished. A country girl has obtained the newspaper giving an account of the disaster, which she is reading to a small but attentive audience. The baker, with his tray on his head, forgets his smoking pie and cooling joint; and the little boy, hoop in hand, stops also, to listen to the mournful news; while the gardener, from his anxious look, seems more than commonly interested in the event. Nothing can be more true to Nature in every respect; and the engraver, Mr H. Robinson, has done his work to admiration.—*Spoleto*, from a sketch by Capt. Grindley, is well engraved by Mr Jeavons; but though the materials are of a description that would form a most beautiful landscape, they are crowded together, and the picture wants distinctness and repose.—Mr Leslie, in his *Catharine of Arragon* listening to the lute of her attendant, has given us a most graceful and dignified representation of the ill-fated consort of Henry the Eighth; and Mr Humphreys has excellently engraved it.—*Early Sorrow*, a child contemplating a dead dove, is from Mr Westall's pencil, which always tells his story distinctly and tastefully. The engraving is a masterly one by Mr W. Finden.—*Mary Queen of Scots presenting her Son to the Commissioners of the Scottish Church*, is a striking and elegant composition by Mr F. Stephanoff. He has given beauty of countenance, graceful action, and picturesque dresses, to the females; and there are some fine heads among the men. We have not seen many specimens of Mr R. Baker's workmanship; but if he engraves all his prints as well as this, we shall be very glad to see more of them.—Mr Kidd's *Masquerade* is extremely well engraved by Mr C. Armstrong (the engraver, by the way, of one of the finest of modern portraits, that of Sir C. Grant)—but Mr Kidd appears to have forgotten that the heroine of his piece was a lady moving in upper life, and should not therefore look like a good-natured, buxom country wench, delighted with her unaccustomed finery. With this exception, the performance does not want merit.—The last print in this elegant book is the *Spae Wife*, nicely engraved by Mr Wright, from a design by Mr Stothard, which is not however one of that venerable and accomplished artist's best works, though it is well grouped, and the action is natural.

Dr Lardner's Cyclopædia.—The vignette which adorns the title page of the 1st volume of the *History of Maritime and Inland Discovery*, represents "Columbus and his crew returning thanks to God" on their first landing in the West Indies. "The moment he and all his crew set foot on land, they erected a crucifix, and prostrating themselves before it, with tears in their eyes thanked God for the goodness he had manifested towards them. When Columbus rose, he named the island San Salvador, and took possession of it in the name of the King of Spain, in the midst of the astonished natives, who surrounded and surveyed him in silence."—The intrepid Navigator has risen, and, standing before the cross, is planting the Spanish standard, while his comrades still kneel in adoration. Mr H. Corbould has made a highly pleasing composition, which Mr E. Finden has excellently engraved.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—I am one of those who am not convinced by some late arguments against the St Giles's in art. The truth is, sir, I look upon the *ideal*, and all that belongs to it, as mere cant. Why am I not to be allowed to look with satisfaction at a row of cabbages on a stall; or a woman hanging clothes out of a three-pair of stairs back-window; or a servant-girl twirling a mop in the morning-sun, because these things are not cast in the mould of Michael Angelo? Am I to see and take pleasure in no single object that presents itself to my senses, and to have eyes only in the Sestine Chapel? The pedants of this school would cut me out of all the familiar amusements and fair varieties of things, and make me pass with affected scorn or sour indifference by every thing I see, because, forsooth, there is something else better; just as the pedants of another school would deprive us of all comfort and enjoyment in this life, to prepare us for a future one. "Take the good the Gods provide ye!" There are better things in Pudding Row and Beer Lane, than in all Mr Flaxman's designs of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and the host angelical. It is a poor, cold, envious disposition that sees nothing good in the common casualties of life, and is forced to shelter its timorous, shivering disgust at the touch of nature and the shock of chance in middle forms and *ideal* outlines. "The proper study of mankind is man," and Hogarth was the painter of humanity. It is not true, sir, that he turned up his nose at the scenes he described. No, he entered into, he enjoyed them, and he infused the life and spirit that revelled beneath the rude husk, into his immortal sketches. There is nothing vulgar but the outside of things; pierce the skin, and the blood flows alike from all human beings. "Eat, drink, and be merry," is the motto of Hogarth's scenes—take life as you find it, and do not be always endeavouring to make it better or worse than it is by affectation and hypocrisy. *Nihil humani a me alienum puto*—so Terence wrote, so Hogarth painted. Before you speak disrespectfully of St Giles's, consider how many glasses of gin have been drunk in it, and with what a relish they have gone down! Is there no mirth in a night-cellar, no

sorrow in a garret? Is not a crust of bread a relief to hunger? a pair of shoes, out at the toes, better than none? Is not an oyster-wench of the fair sex? Is not a thief "a good man," as the admirable Elia observes? Oh, Gay, why didst thou write thy *Beggars' Opera* in vain? Did not the sun shine upon Dyott Street before it was nick-named George Street? Did not the moon look up Tottenham Court Road, till the red clock of the New Police regulations put it out? Even the mud of St Giles's becomes classical when you have known it all your life, and a thousand recollections glitter round the purlieus of Soho and Bloomsbury. With pain am I about to leave you—with pleasure do I look back upon you. People who see nothing in common objects, have nothing in themselves. I do not want to be excentarated of all my natural feelings and "earth-born" sympathies, to be sublimed into the void of an ideal contemplation of I know not what. I shall resist it, Mr Editor. No; give me the Cries of London, the postman's bell at dinner-time, the sound of carts and coaches, and I leave the music of the spheres to those who have ears to hear them—let me have Hogarth, and Fielding, and Defoe, and I can make shift without motionless Madonnas and bullying Saints.

Yours, if you put in this letter, M. C. B.

SIR THOS. LAWRENCE.

It is supposed that one of the three following gentlemen will be elected to fill the vacant President's Chair at the Royal Academy:—Mr Westmacott, Mr Chantrey, Sir J. Wyatville—the two former distinguished Sculptors; the latter, an eminent Architect.—The Funeral of Sir Thomas Lawrence is to take place on Thursday next.

(From the Public Journals.)

The father of Sir Thomas Lawrence kept the Bear Inn, at Devizes, where he was unsuccessful, although the most polite and plausible Boniface of the day. In person he was tall and rotund; to the last he wore a large bushy wig and a cocked hat. His manners were mild and pleasing, and his countenance blooming and graceful. The father, the eminent artist, a brother, and, we believe, two sisters, came to London, and resided under the same roof, at a house in Greek street, Soho, where they depended solely for support upon the rising talents of Sir Thomas. In these days, the old gentleman used to sell pencil sketches and portraits, the early drawings of his son, for half-a-guinea each, many of which have since been re-purchased by him at a high price. Sir Thomas, during his obscurity and want of employment as an artist, lived much on what is called "the Town," and improved himself in the accomplishments requisite to form the gentleman and the man of fashion. He was a scientific and successful billiard-player, and he constantly frequented many of the public tables, especially those at the east end of Exeter 'Change. He played the violin admirably, and danced with infinite grace. He recited poetry, and declaimed with taste and discrimination. His performances in the Private Theatricals at the late Marquess of Ashcombe's, at Stanmore, evinced so much dramatic skill and knowledge of stage effect, as must have insured to him pre-eminence, had he adopted the stage as a profession. He was once to have married a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments, the daughter of the most eminent and intellectual woman in her art that has lived in our time, and who still survives; but at that period his own income was extremely limited, and the father of the lady, who was then living, refused his consent. The noblest efforts of his art have, subsequently, been exerted in perpetuating various real and historical resemblances of the different branches of this family. The lady herself died of a pulmonary complaint, many years ago.—*Morning Chronicle.*—[We have heard a relation of this affair, which gives a different reason for the failure of the union, and one of a more painful description. Mrs Siddons, we believe, never afterwards would associate with Sir Thos. Lawrence.]

It is painful to speak of the frailties of the illustrious dead; but as the life of Sir Thomas is now matter of history, from the events of which we are to draw example and instruction for the conduct of the living, we may, perhaps, without any violation of delicacy or propriety, be allowed to advert to that well-known passion for play which produced embarrassment of circumstances in all the later years of his life, and, with that embarrassment, those attendant harrassings and vexations, which, we fear, must have materially contributed to its somewhat sudden and early close. Sir Thomas never, for some time past, painted a full-length under the price of five hundred guineas. One half of this amount was invariably required on the first sitting; and it is a melancholy fact, that the money thus obtained in the morning, was, in but too many instances, squandered at the gaming-table in the evening. The result of this was, that Sir Thomas was ever more anxious to obtain new sittings than to finish those which were on hand; and, we believe, there are instances of portraits remaining seven or even ten years in his painting room before the owners could, either by persuasion or remonstrance, procure those finishing touches which, by satisfying the fastidious and delicate taste of the painter, enabled them to obtain possession of the highly cherished portrait. We fear, therefore, from our knowledge of these circumstances, that vast numbers of portraits remain unfinished—that the health of this illustrious artist must have materially suffered from the vexations to which they gave rise, and that his pecuniary affairs are not in a state to warrant us in supposing that his collections can be preserved as a gift to any of his family. Complaints have been made by the Editors of the Annuals, and others, of the right claimed by Sir Thomas to exact a contribution from those who thought it their interest to make engravings from his works. We certainly agree with those who thought the opposition to this claim well founded; and while we regretted that an artist, so exalted and so generally free from all sordid motives, should advance such a claim, we perceived the pressure of those difficulties which, doubtless, brought the mind of Sir Thomas to regard such an unhandsome invasion of the privileges of his brother-artists without abhorence. *Necessitas non habet legem* is as applicable to painters as to the rest of mankind, and we know that under its influence we look on actions with complacency or approbation, which, in the time of our prosperity, we might shudder even to contemplate. We wish not, however, to dwell on the faults of this eminent man's character, but rather to enlarge on its excellencies and its beauties. He possessed all the qualities of a perfect gentleman; he was kind-hearted, liberal, and honourable—highly accomplished; in his youth one of the best dancers, fencers, and reciters of the day, and, in every respect, a most agreeable companion. His appearance was highly attractive; his manners bland and polite, and his countenance more than ordinarily handsome. —*Observer.*

Some of our contemporaries, in announcing the death of this distinguished individual, having expressed themselves in a manner calculated to convey erroneous impressions, we are happy to be able to give from authority an accurate statement of the facts:—He had been indisposed for some few days previously, but not so seriously as to prevent his pursuing his usual avocations. The attack which terminated so fatally commenced on the night of Wednesday—the symptoms were, however, partially relieved in the course of Thursday, but returned suddenly and with increased severity about eight o'clock in the evening, and within one hour of their recurrence deprived him of his life. A *post mortem* examination has, for the satisfaction of his friends, since taken place, and has most clearly shown that this melancholy event has arisen from extensive and complicated ossification of the vessels of the heart. The operation was performed on Sunday morning by Mr Green, in the presence of Dr Holland and another medical friend. We were concerned to read in a Sunday paper a charge that Sir Thomas was addicted to the vice of gambling. There is not a person at all acquainted with his habits but well knows that so far from this being the fact, he was scarcely acquainted with the common rules of any game of cards; while billiards, at which in early life he excelled, he had totally relinquished for many years, and never was in the habit of playing at them for money. The expenditure of his large income might well be accounted for by the fact, that there is now in his house in Russell square a collection of original drawings by most of the ancient masters, such as, to use Sir Thomas's own words, "no crowned head possesses;" the expense of collecting which, and its present value, is very great. The sums, too, which his benevolence lavished on indigent and meritorious artists, alone would make a considerable item in a large expenditure, without ascribing to him habits altogether unfounded in fact.—*Globe.*

Sir Thomas Lawrence, when about 18 years of age, in the year 1788, came to Salisbury, and waited upon the late Dr Hancock, an eminent physician in that city, to whom he had a letter of recommendation. Dr Hancock employed him to make portraits, in coloured chalk, of himself and his daughter. These portraits are now in the possession of a gentleman holding an official situation in London, who married a grand-daughter of the late Dr Hancock. He informs us that they are executed in a style fully equal to any of the lamented President's latest drawings. On the paper pasted at the backs of the frames is the signature, "Thos. Lawrence," and on one of them the artist has written—"Be pleased to keep this from the damp and from the sun." Dr Hancock recommended young Lawrence to go to Bath, and gave him several letters of introduction to his friends there. It was then much frequented by persons of fashion and distinction, who were all eager to employ him. After remaining there some time, and becoming a general favourite, he left that city for London.—*Times.*

In the *Miscellanies of the Hon. Daines Barrington*, the author, speaking of the early proofs of musical genius exhibited by the Earl of Mornington, takes occasion to mention the talent for a sister art displayed by a boy in the ninth year of his age. This boy afterwards became Sir Thos. Lawrence. Mr Barrington's words are—"As I have mentioned so many other proofs of early genius in children, I cannot here pass unnoticed Master Lawrence, son of an innkeeper at the Devizes, in Wiltshire.—"This boy is now (viz. February, 1780) nearly ten years a half old; but at the age of nine, without the most distant instruction from any one, he was capable of copying historical pictures in a masterly style, and also succeeded amazingly in compositions of his own, particularly that of *Peter denying Christ.* In about seven minutes he scarcely ever failed of drawing a strong likeness of any person present, which had generally much freedom and grace, if the subject permitted. He is likewise an excellent reader of blank verse, and will immediately convince any one that he both understands and feels the striking passages of Milton or Shakspeare."—It is a matter of no little regret that Sir Thomas Lawrence has left no resemblance of himself in any shape. He never sat for his portrait or bust, nor, we believe, did he ever make even the slightest sketch of his own likeness. He had arranged with his townsman, Mr Baily, the sculptor, to give his first sitting for a bust on the 11th of the present month, Monday last. Casts, we learn, were taken from the late President's face on Saturday, both by Mr Baily and Mr Chantrey. The following trait of his well-known generosity has been sent us:—"A living artist, whose name, from delicacy, we suppress, being a man of considerable merit and without patronage, had submitted three of his pictures to Sir Thomas's inspection. He called one evening at Sir Thomas's house, anxious to gain his approbation, and, at the same time, to take them away. He sent up his name to the President, who followed the servant down stairs, put a paper, folded up, into the hand of the artist, saying, 'I had left this, should you have called whilst I was from home. I much admire your productions, and wish you

every success.' The artist had only patience to get to the first lamp, when he was anxious to know what the paper contained: he unfolded it, and found within it a 30*l.* note, *which saved him from despair.*"—*Times.*

COBBETT'S LECTURES.

The object of Mr Cobbett's Lectures is to ascertain the cause of the distress now so prevalent, and to suggest the means by which the evil may be remedied or alleviated. A purpose so truly laudable that, though we may differ in our view of the subject, we feel ourselves obliged by the opportunity he has afforded us of examining his. With respect to the cause of the present distress, he distinctly states, as his fundamental proposition, "that the causes of the distress now so prevalent and great, are not to be found in any of the numerous causes to which the Government had ascribed them, but that the sole efficient cause was the change that had been made in the value of money." Mr Cobbett appears to think that Government has ascribed the *present* distress to the causes which he has enumerated and examined, whereas those causes were not assigned as the causes of the present, but as causes of the then state of distress. When, after the conclusion of peace, Ministers had to account for commercial embarrassments, they ascribed them to the transition from a state of war, during which we had commanded the most extensive trading, to a state of peace, by which our trading had become more restricted. When Ministers were called upon to account for the failure of some important branches of our manufactures, they ascribed the circumstance to overtrading; agricultural distress, Ministers ascribed to the low price of agricultural produce, and the general want of food; at another period, they ascribed it to the high price it occasioned by its scarcity, and to the increased demand for it occasioned by an increase of population. They may have been mistaken in their opinions, but it is not correct to refer to those opinions, as opinions applied to the present distress, which is of a more complicated nature and much greater extent than the particular distress to which those opinions were applied. The present distress Mr C. describes very forcibly: he observes, that "they (his audience at Liverpool) had seen the mischievous effect of that measure (the paper system), in the change which it effected in the circumstances of many opulent families, who were thereby reduced to absolute want; such changes were still every day going on in every part of the kingdom, but in London more than anywhere else. But great as were the sufferings of people so reduced, they were nothing in comparison with the grinding misery and degradation of the labouring class, the agricultural labours particularly, though the manufacturing people were badly enough off. Artizans in Derby were earning 4*s.* 6*d.* a week, and in many districts the people fed entirely upon potatoes, in some on cabbages and salt, and he had heard of their being reduced to scalded bran. But when people were so reduced, they soon would have whatever was to be got, and accordingly they made free with sheep, pigs, poultry, rabbits, hares, pheasants, in short, in the agricultural districts, it was hardly possible to keep any property that was not under cover. In Nottinghamshire the labour of the poor people had been put up in lots to public auction for a month at a time, so that, (says the *Nottingham Review,*) 'thus are Englishmen sold twelve times a year, and yet we have humanity enough, have we? to complain of the sufferings of poor negroes ten thousand miles off.' In Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, not long since, they had got into the practice of shutting up the poor in the pound; but their numbers and their suffering in one district became so great, that they forced their way out, broke open the overseer's house, and dragged him out, and inflicted upon him considerable personal violence. Great alarm then began to prevail lest the poor of two or three parishes, meeting together, should become too strong for the civil power, and great mischief should ensue, 'as there were no soldiers in those parts to keep them in check.' What a reflection was that for the inhabitant of a free and happy country, that a hired soldiery should be brought in to coerce with the sword and bayonet the starving population."

If such be, and we fear it is, the real state of the poor and labouring classes, it is indeed a question of the deepest interest and importance to ascertain the causes that have led to it. Mr Cobbett ascribes the change that has been made in the value of money, as the sole efficient cause of the distress now so prevalent and great. We are not disposed to favour a paper currency, but we think that so long as it is, upon demand, convertible into specie, that it may usefully be permitted to a certain amount. We, however, agree with Mr C., that every change in the value of money must operate injuriously to the debtor or creditor, unless existing engagements be by legislative enactment exempted from the effect of such change. But we are wholly at a loss to conceive how such enactment can be framed. A change in the value of money may be more or less sudden; but whether the currency be gold, or gold and paper, its value must depend on the quantity of it, and as it is impossible to render its quantity fixed, its value must be as fluctuating as its quantity. If the paper were withdrawn from circulation, still gold would be subject to a change in value according to the increase or reduction of its quantity; and Mr C. correctly remarks that "prices accommodate themselves to the proportion between the quantity of goods for sale and the quantity of money in the country." The variations long before the infusion of paper into our currency occurred. It is in evidence, that long before that period changes had occurred in the value of the precious metals. Mr C. seems to admit that a change in the value of money has no material effect on subsequent dealings, but contends that it operates most injudiciously and unjustly on the existing engagements, and in the following extract furnishes an illustration of the distinction. "The price of those days (Reign of Edward III.) accommodated themselves, as they always do, to the quantity of money in circulation. The man whose wages were fixed at 2½*d.* per day, could buy a pair of shoes for 2*d.*: a fat sheep, unshorn, for 1*s.* 8*d.* and if shorn, for 1*s.* 2*d.* The minds of his hearers would tell them how well off then the people must have been in those days. The woman who earned a penny a day in the harvest field, could buy a pair shoes for 1½*d.* and a bottle of wine for one penny; and if one penny would move a bottle of wine from hand to hand in those days, was it not as good as the 5*s.* or 6*s.* which it required to do the same thing now-a-days?—(*Applause.*) They would see then the fallacy of this talk of a want of more money because trade has increased.—There was indeed another view that might be taken of this question, which it was worth while to look at. Suppose he (Mr C.) were a farmer having 30 fat sheep, and that being all the property which he would have to dispose of for many months. He knew a certain butcher would give him 2*l.* a-piece for those sheep, because he had told him so; and he could get as many lean sheep, to eat off his turnips, at 1*l.* a-piece. Wanting to perform this operation, he should take his sheep to the butcher and say, 'Come, here they are; now pay me 60*l.*' But, something having occurred to reduce all the money in the kingdom to only one half of what it was before; so that where there had been 20*l.* in the morning, there was only 10*l.* at noon; 'No,' says the butcher, 'I can't give you 60*l.*;—I have lost half my money, and can only give you 30*l.* which is all I have left.' Every one else being in the same plight, it would be of no use to take the sheep elsewhere, and he must take the price that he could get.—(*Applause.*) This was just what had been done already in a large way, the only difference was, that instead of being done all at once, it took a longer time. In this case, he could get only 30*l.* for his 30 fat sheep; but, owing to the same circumstance, he would be able to get 30 lean sheep for 15*l.* so that, as far as that transaction went, the change would make no difference to him; he should not suffer any loss by it, and therefore, so far, all would be right. 'Then,' perhaps, some of the promoters of the measure by which the change in our money has been effected might say, 'that is just what we do: we have taken one half, perhaps, but we have taken it from all alike, so that no one can complain.' But let them wait a little; there was something yet to do with the other half which remained. When he got home from market, with his remaining 15*l.* in his pocket, he found there his wheelwright and his blacksmith waiting with their bills to be paid, amounting to 10*l.* which he paid them accordingly; and the 5*l.* which he had left was required to pay the wages due to some of his servants, who were going away. Thus he would be left without one shilling. He forgot, to be sure, to say to the wheelwright and the blacksmith, that they must take one half the amount of their bill, on account of the alteration, but they would not have done so if he had. Neither would his servants have taken one penny less than the amount of those wages agreed on when they were hired. Presently after they were gone, however, there came another very civil gentleman, with a gentle knock at the door, who politely asked him to pay 10*l.* due for taxes,—(*Laughter.*) It was in vain to tell that very civil person that he had no money left; that the Government had taken away half of all the money he had,—or that a necromancer had come in the night and conjured it off: 'Oh!' he would say, 'I know nothing about that, but if you don't pay me the 10*l.* on or before Wednesday next, I will exchequer you!'—(*Laughter and applause.*) To those gentlemen who heard him now, accustomed as they were to the payment of duties, and to transactions with the revenue departments, and familiar as they were with the forms of business, the word 'Exchequer' might have no alarming sound. But to the poor farmer, the name of that Court was a word of as much terror now, as ever that of the Inquisition was to a Spaniard; and he verily believed, that as far as anxiety, and real distress and suffering went, apart from the infliction of mere bodily torture, the Exchequer of this country had caused far more than that horrid tribunal—(*Applause.*) The quantity of money in a country, then, did not so much matter; but the mode of altering it was of the greatest consequence. By lessening it one half, either in quantity or value, and leaving all out-standing debts and demands to be paid in their full nominal amount, ruin and distress and beggary to thousands must inevitably be produced. What should be done, therefore, was not to return to the base paper-money—not to clip the coin; but leaving the money as it is, let the taxes be reduced—let the tax-gatherer lessen his demand; he would do this so as to avoid dealing unjustly by the fundholder or annuitant, and then peace and happiness and plenty would be seen in the country once more. But if the system now pursued were continued, then must a state of things ensue such as Englishmen ought not to endure."

Mr C. in this illustration supposes the value of money to be reduced one half, and we admit that the effect would be such as he describes; but the effect would be the same if the currency were purely gold. The withdrawing of half the amount of gold in circulation would double the value of the remainder; and recent experience shows that state exigencies may subject a metallic currency to be withdrawn to a larger amount for military and naval operations abroad. With respect to the effect of a change in the value of money as between creditor and debtor, we think that as the creditor has run the risk of loss by a change, he is intitled to any benefit that may be consequent on it; but we admit that such change ought not to be arbitrarily produced; and whether the present state of things requires any, is a question which requires the most correct information as prices, for if the present prices do not materially exceed the prices of the period to which Mr C. refers, namely, 1791, the changes which from time to time have since then occurred in the value of money have not operated in the degree that he represents; and if the present prices should be found not to exceed those of that period, 1791, Mr C. must cast about for a cause of the present distress distinct from that of a change in the value of money.

(To be continued.)

WEST INDIA AFFAIRS.

The Free People of Colour.—It is pleasant to observe the growth of liberal opinions in a quarter where hitherto they have been but too effectually checked by the united influence of prejudice and a supposed self-interest. In November last, a public meeting took place at Kingston, Jamaica, of many highly respectable white inhabitants of the parish of St James, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning the Legislature for the extension of privileges to persons of free condition generally."—The senior Magistrate present, T. J. Gray, Esq. took the Chair; and Dr Roper, after observing upon the justice and propriety of granting to the free people of colour a participation in the civil and political rights enjoyed by their white fellow subjects, to which, he said, their numbers, wealth, and intellectual acquirements, justly entitled them, brought forward a petition to the House of Assembly. It stated, among other things, that in all emergencies affecting the safety of the island, the personal services of the free people of colour had been invariably prompt and meritorious, while they contributed to the taxes in an equal ratio with the white inhabitants:—that their continued exclusion from offices of trust and emolument generally was no less an incentive to idleness and crime, than at variance with all sound principles of good government, evincing a pertinacious adherence to national prejudices and improvident laws—impolitic under existing circumstances, and unsuitable to the present period.

The petition was supported by Dr Gordon and S. M. Barrett, Esq. The latter gentleman, in a very sensible address, advocated the claims of the free people of colour not merely on the grounds of humanity and justice, but upon that of *expediency*, for, he said, when the battles of the country where to be fought, it was certainly not wise to diminish its resources by division. In illustration of the melancholy effects of the present system, he stated that a respectable female of colour, the mother of three sons, one a medical man, and the others officers in the British Navy and Army, told him, with tears in her eyes, that she had seen one of them only for these 20 years, and that was by stealth in the night, for he was afraid that if his brother officers should become acquainted with his origin, they would despise him—such was the force of existing prejudices, which the exclusive system contributed so much to cherish. Was not this separation of the parent and her offspring, asked Mr Barrett, pitable in the highest degree? Its injustice touched his heart as well as his understanding. Mr B. then touched upon the impolicy of keeping so respectable and numerous a body in a state of degradation, and stated that, under the present laws, white persons of indifferent character were often obliged to be employed by those who would gladly have engaged free persons of colour, but could not.

The petition was unanimously agreed to, and received the signatures of all present.

Woe to the *Watchman* (a paper set up and conducted by the free people of colour) that a *Mr Augustus Hardin Beaumont* seems to be the mouth-piece of the illiberals in the Jamaica House of Assembly. On the 11th Nov. he opposed a petition in favour of the just claims of the people of colour, not by arguments, but on the miserable ground, that "it was not couched in respectful language;" and he also complained of the conduct of the Corporation of Kingston, in admitting coloured children into a school for gratuitous education. Poor man! he thought it "an invasion of vested rights," which should be looked to. The House, however, in spite of Mr Beaumont's jackdaw oratory, received the petition and referred it to a Committee.—All this looks well.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

"An enemy hath done this."—Matthew, c. xiii, v. 28.

Mr Editor,—Being well acquainted with the *facts* of the case, which your correspondent, "A Lover of Justice," alludes to as having taken place at Merthyr Tidvil, I beg leave to state, that they have been grossly perverted in his statement. If he took them from hearsay, he should have been cautious. If he speaks from himself, he is little entitled to the signature he has adopted. Is it "Justice," Mr Editor, to wound in the dark, and under an anonymous signature, to inflame the passions of the populace against an unoffending and most praiseworthy individual? The facts are as follow—and I appeal to the upright and impartial magistrate before whom they were heard, for confirmation of them:—The funeral was arranged between the parties to take place at *two o'clock*. The Clergyman waited till *half-past three o'clock*, and then went to fulfil several engagements of visiting the sick, &c. &c.; which a population of above 20,000 naturally demand. The parties attending the funeral, finding the gates closed, came to consult the magistrate; he advised them to go to the Churchwardens, where, no doubt, they had been left.

The Churchwarden who resides nearest the churchyard, had gone to Bristol, and before the other could arrive, *the lock was picked*.

When a "Lover of Justice" commends such "a spirit" "as doing credit" to those who display it, let him beware of his own premises; for he may rest assured he will meet with little sympathy from the well regulated part of the public, if, after disseminating such doctrine as this, his own house was broken into.

The Rev. Gentleman so unfeelingly slandered, leads the life of a mill-horse—*his* is indeed no sinecure—neither Sunday nor any other day "shines a sabbath to him;" and if among his arduous and ill-requited duties the smallest shade of omission is espied, an ungenerous hue and cry is immediately raised against him by those who would wound the Establishment through the sides of a humble and unfortunate curate. I am myself a Dissenter, yet despise such conduct.

I am, Mr Editor, your obedient servant,

An impartial Observer.

P.S. With respect to the "child taken over the wall," I never heard of it, and have no doubt is is equally exaggerated with the statement in question.

Merthyr Tidvil, 4th January, 1830.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

Tuesday, January 12.

INSOLVENTS.

S. S. Davis, J. S. Davis, and J. Robinson, Liverpool, merchants.
S. March, Kennington, lace-manufacturer.

BANKRUPTS.

D. Crole, Sweeting's alley, exchange-broker. [Paterson, Old Broad st.
T. and J. Crump, Tewkesbury, woollen-drapers. [King, Serjeant's inn.
J. Wood, Haddenham, baker. [Lovell, Gray's inn.
D. Smith, Walham green, stage-coach-proprietor. [Willis, Sloan sq.
R. Franklin, Southampton row, tailor. [Brough, Chancery lane.
A. G. Ripamonti, Fox Ordinary ct., merchant. [Coombs, Tokenhouse yd.
T. B. Clark and W. Clark, Woodbridge. [Jones, Size lane.
R. Geddes, Fenchurch street, wine-merchant. [Murphy, Castle alley.
J. Birks, Wickersley, maltster. [Lever, Gray's inn square.
T. Ellam, Liverpool, bricklayer. [Chester, Staple inn.
J. Horridge, Liverpool, confectioner. [Smith, Chancery lane.
S. Cooke, Coventry, riband-manufacturer. [Austen, Gray's inn.
J. R. Stephenson, Manchester, ironmonger. [Ellis, Chancery lane.
T. Packwood, Welshpool, innkeeper. [Tooke, Bedford row.
W. Dawson, Tetford, joiner. [Young, St Mildred's court.
R. May, Devonport, tobacconist. [Smith, Basinghall street.

Friday, January 15.

INSOLVENT.

M. de Pedrorena, South street, Finsbury, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

R. A. Pearce, Southwark, coal-merchant, and Pimlico, livery-stable-keeper. [Turner, Clifford's inn.
P. Wicks, Islington, cheesemonger. [Fisher, Walbrook buildings.
G. T. Elgie, Silver street, wine-merchant. [Wilkinson, Bucklersbury.
W. Thatcher, Strutton ground, victualler. [Glynes, Vine street.
J. Pain, Bentinck street, dealer. [Hamilton and Co. Berwick street.
E. Clarke and A. Deacon, Goswell street, drapers. [Bartlett and Beddome, Nicholas lane.
J. Coppock and C. Cross, Gutter lane, silk-warehousemen. [Fisher, Walbrook buildings.
J. Gray, Lambeth, coal-merchant. [Bennett, Adam's court, Broad street.
J. Morgan, Woodbury, grocer. [Adlington and Co. Bedford row.
J. Budd, Minchinhampton, maltster. [Beetham, Freeman's court.
J. Birks, Rossington grange, Yorksh. cattle salesman. [Lever, Gray's inn.
W. Armitage, Netherend-in-Derby, fancy-manufacturer. [Walker and Rickards, Lincoln's inn fields.
D. Lodge, Almondbury, fancy-manufacturer. [Walker, Lincoln's inn f.
N. Gaskell, Wigan, iron-master. [Keightley, Temple.
G. Mitchell, jun. Brighton, broker. [Egan and Waterman, Essex street.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

Tomorrow—RICHARD the THIRD. And JACK in the BOX; or Harlequin and the Princess of the Hidden Island.
Tuesday—Paul Pry. And The Pantomime.
Wednesday—The Merchant of Venice. And The Pantomime.
Thursday—Masaniello. And The Pantomime.
Friday—Othello. And The Pantomime.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

Tomorrow—The GRECIAN DAUGHTER. And HARLEQUIN and COCK ROBIN; or Vulcan and Venus.
Tuesday—A Husband's Mistake; or the Corporal's Wedding. Giovanni in London. And the Pantomime.
Wednesday—Venice Preserved. And The Pantomime.
Thursday—The Beaux Stratagem. And The Pantomime.
Friday—Venice Preserved. And The Pantomime.

THE FUNDS, Saturday.

English.		Foreign.	
3 per Cent. Consols,	94 1/4 1/4	French 5 per Cents,	
Ditto for Account,	95 1/4 3/4	Ditto 3 per Cents,	
3 per Cent. Reduced,	94 7/8 5	Russian 5 per Cent Bonds,	100 1/4
3 1/2 per Cents,		Austrian 5 per Cent Ditto,	
4 per Cents,		Prussian 5 per Cent Ditto,	
Ditto, New,		Brazil	71 1/4 1/4
Long Annuities,	19 1/4 3/4	Greek	34 1/2 1/2
New Annuities, 30 Years,	19 1/8		

On Friday a deputation from the City, consisting of Alderman Wood, Deputy Routh, and Messrs Tickner and R. L. Jones, had a conference with the Duke of Wellington and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the Treasury-chambers, on the subject of the high price of coals, the combination among the coal-owners of the Tyne and Wear, and of the best modes of reducing the present high charges in London.

Mr Rutt's Communication, the Letter of a Citizen to the Lord Mayor, &c in our next.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, January 16, 1830.

The approaching Session of the French Legislative Chambers engrosses political attention in Paris, and is regarded by the Liberals with as much hope as by their opponents with anxiety. The Royal Court has damped a little the triumph of the Press in its late decisions, by confirming the sentence which an inferior tribunal had pronounced against the publisher of a work allusive to young Napoleon, entitled *Le Fils de l'Homme.*—Much speculation is afloat as to Prince Leopold and the Greek Crown; but nothing official or authentic has transpired upon the subject: among various assertions, it is stated that there will be a Congress of Ministers at Vienna, to determine the question.—It appears probable that the Emperor of Brazil will attempt to overturn, by force, the usurpation of Miguel; an enterprise for which the disordered state of Portugal affords a favourable opportunity.

The *Moniteur* of the 13th, contains the *proces verbal* of the biddings for the loan of 80,000,000f. at 4 per cent, which was taken by Messrs Rothschild, Brothers, at the price of 102f. 74c., this offer being superior as well to the *minimum* fixed by the Minister of Finance as to the offers of the three other parties who bid for it.

The contradiction given to the report that the King was unwilling to receive Mr Denman, which appeared last week, had the double authority of the King and of Mr Denman. We understand that his Majesty was justly indignant at the supposition that he could be induced, by any personal dislike, not to receive a law officer in the execution of his public duty. It would appear also, that there is not the personal dislike which some persons pretend. The King was, we believe, at one time, much incensed against Mr Denman, not on account of his conduct on the trial of the late Queen, but owing to an intimation that was made to him by an aged and learned person, that Mr Denman had spoken disrespectfully of him in private circles. When the knowledge of this fact reached the ears of Mr Denman, through a high legal personage, he convinced the Duke of Wellington of its falsehood, and the Premier, with great good feeling, immediately hastened to lay the real facts before his Majesty, who was pleased to express pleasure at the explanation.—*Court Journal.*

Prince Leopold, we understand, has refused the sovereignty of Greece, distrusting, perhaps, his ability to govern the somewhat wayward children of Leonidas, and being little tempted by the ambition to fill a Throne.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Mr O'Connell's Plan of Reform.—One great purpose of my Parliamentary career is to obtain a Radical Reform in the House of Commons. My plan is comprehensive and simple—that every man should have a right to vote, with no exclusions but these three; 1st, persons under the age of 21;—2nd, persons convicted of crime made punishable with this exclusion by the code;—3d, persons declared incompetent by the verdict of a jury. This, in other words, can be called universal suffrage. The mode of voting should be by ballot. I take these two things to be essential, and not to be dispensed with or broken in upon by any qualification—universal suffrage and voting by ballot. The duration of Parliament should be limited to two years. This experiment has succeeded well in America. I would fallow that example, though I am not wedded to it. But I never can qualify or abandon my view of universal suffrage and voting by ballot.—*Address to the People of Ireland.*

Mr Owen's Plan.—Under the impression that all human evil proceeds from the erroneous supposition that man has been formed with powers to believe as he likes, and to feel as he pleases, and that this origin of evil must now give place to the superior knowledge that man is forced by the unchanging laws of his nature to believe, in obedience to the strongest conviction that is made upon his mind, and to feel, in obedience to the impressions made by external objects upon his individual organization, I have developed a new moral, political, and commercial system for the British dominions, founded on this change of moral principle; which system will in the first instance be submitted to Government for their calm consideration, and afterwards be laid before the public; as it must, ere long, be adopted to relieve you from the dire effects of immorality, and of misdirected scientific power. The plan recommended is, to supersede the vicious circumstances which pervade the moral, political, and commercial system now in practice, by other circumstances of a more favourable character, formed in accordance with the now-ascertained law of human nature, that belief and feeling are alike independent of the will of the individual. Such a combination of circumstances would at once relieve the world from all the misery entailed upon it by the consequences arising from a contrary supposition; which supposition could only have been upheld, through past ages, by reason of the ignorance which pervaded the human race upon these all-important subjects. No such change, however, as that which I propose can be established unless borne out by the sanction of a majority of the reflecting part of the population.—*Address to the British Nation.*

The repairs of Apsley House are said to have cost £50,000.

Mr Cobbett, in his lectures at Liverpool, declared he should be *seen* in the House of Commons within six months; that it was a matter of certainty; it depended on no contingency, but was beyond all doubt!

The new Police is to be extended very shortly to the east district of the metropolis. Four houses have been taken as barracks for the men—one in Great Alie-street, another in Lemon-street, a third in Prescott-street, and the fourth in Mansell-street.—*Chronicle.*

The Edinburgh Review and the New Monthly Magazine.—There is an article in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*, containing some strictures on Mr Flaxman's Lectures on Sculpture, which has drawn forth rather a peevish answer from the pen of the Editor of the *New Monthly Magazine*, who says that he was personally acquainted with the late Professor of Sculpture, and had indeed "a regard for him amounting to veneration." That may very well be; and yet the Lecturer may have laid down principles of art, which, if not wrong, at least admit of having their truth examined into. We do not see the ground of difference between the Reviewer and the Editor. The Reviewer does not deny that Mr Campbell was personally intimate with Mr Flaxman, that he dined out with him often, that he has bowed to him a number of times or has seen others bow to him—he does not entertain a doubt that Sir Thomas Lawrence was President of the Royal Academy; that Canova's name is well known over all Europe; nor does he object to Mr Campbell's applying the term *venerable* to any individual wherever he thinks it will reflect back credit on himself to do so. He leaves his fastidious opponent in possession of all the diplomacy and etiquette of the question—the dispute is about the picture, not the frame. But Mr Flaxman has published a book, or had one published for him; and if he chuses to maintain that two and two make five, there was no occasion that Mr Campbell should step forward first to deny that he had said so, and next to maintain that if he had said so, he was right. Mr Campbell speaks feelingly of his own perplexity and misgivings in attempting a character of Mr Flaxman's work, or in conducting him from what he calls "the pedestal of his profession" and the recesses of private life into "the didactic floor and sounding hall of criticism"—and he is not a little scandalized at the promptitude and presumption of the Reviewer in this respect. The difference may be accounted for easily enough;—the Edinburgh Reviewer takes the book and reads it to see what he shall think and say of it, while Mr Campbell is tormenting himself to discover how, without inquiring into or understanding the subject, he can build a lofty superstructure of self-complacency and adulation upon nothing. It is curious to hear Mr Campbell complain of the plural style of criticism, and affect to be answerable for his opinions in his own name and person, when it is well-known that he never had an opinion in his life that he did not share in common with *the best judges.* He and the public are literally the "Siamese twins"—and he is angry with the Reviewer for not making a third in the *Literary Union.* At any rate, the author of the *Pleasures of Hope* is right in standing up for established names and opinions, and in not wishing the title to fame and honours to be too closely inquired into. He himself has a great reputation and has done little for it. He is also aware of his country's maxim, "when a wheel goes up a hill, lay fast hold of it: when it runs down, let go your hold." We should be better pleased with Mr Campbell's deferences to authority and fashion, if it did not sometimes make him guilty of acts of injustice and petulance to those who do not move in his favourite sphere. In paying his "unfawning court" to the foremost in fame and fortune, and *making the amiable* before the "venerable," he should take care not to elbow aside or crush with servile advances his less pretending neighbours in the crowd.

The Pretyman Family.—We offer the following extract from Rivington's *Clerical Guide*:—

"G. T. Pretyman, Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of Lincoln; Prebendary of Winchester; Rector of Chalfont St Giles, in Buckinghamshire; Rector of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire; and the Rectory of Harpenden, in the same county!

"John Pretyman, Prebendary of Lincoln; Rector of Sherrington, in Wiltshire; Rector of Winwick, in Northamptonshire!

"Richard Pretyman, Precentor and Canon of Lincoln; Rector of Middleton Stoney, in Oxfordshire; Rector of Walgrave, in Northamptonshire; Vicar of Hannington, in the same county; Rector of Wroughton, in Wiltshire!"

"Well done, good and faithful servant," Bishop Tomline, "enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!" We shall, in truth, marvel greatly, if thou hast not got some warm preferment, in return for all these things, in the diocess to which thou hast been since translated! Is this the way in which church property has been heaped upon the members of their families, men of no particular desert whatever, by the apostolic fathers of the church?—*Times.*

NEWSPAPER CHAT.

We are informed that a certain Right Reverend Prelate, holding the richest see in Ireland, has, in the true spirit of parental solicitude and in sympathy with the times, generously afforded *five shillings* in the pound towards liquidating his son's expenses at the University. Perhaps this Right Reverend Father in God intends returning a *fifteenth* part of his splendid income towards relieving the distresses of his fellow-countrymen. If so, we shall not envy the B——— the many good things they possess, we believe to the tune of 100,000*l.* a year!—*Cambridge Gazette.*

Use of Ardent Spirits.—The *Scots Times*, in noticing the progress of the "Temperance Societies" now so common in North America, says that they amount to not less than 600, and contain upwards of 25,000 members, on the simple principle of total abstinence from the use of ardent spirits; and that their effect has been so powerful, that the consumption has decreased one-third, over the whole States, in the short space of two years.—"It may fairly be assumed, (continues the *Scots Times*) as a general position, that no individual ever set out on a course of Intemperance with the determination to become a confirmed drunkard, or with the impression that such a consummation was, in his case, even probable. The vice of drunkenness has its origin generally in small excesses, or in the frequent use of a very moderate, perhaps even a minute quantity of ardent spirits. The primary effects of these are, to stimulate the animal system, and enable its various parts to perform their functions with increased energy; the secondary effects are loss of vigour proportioned to the previous excitement. This diminution of energy, however, is in reality, not in the precise ratio of the excitement, but considerably greater; and from the positive exhaustion thus occasioned, a craving for stimulus is produced, which must lead to establish the habit of gratifying it. We apprehend that here lies the essential difference betwixt ardent spirits (and wines also, when daily used) and other liquors which satisfy thirst without impairing bodily health or vigour. No person forms such an attachment to water or milk, and perhaps we may add, to tea or coffee, as that he cannot resist the very sight of them without tasting, or when tasted that they should produce a thirst for more, a craving which never says, "it is enough."—If, then, intemperance owes its accelerating progress to the diminution of bodily energy caused by the use of the stimulant, it is evident that what is termed "the moderate use of ardent spirits," is only feeding the disease, and that no remedy can be effectual, but to relinquish them altogether. Moral feelings and religious principles have often been found but feeble barriers to the progress of Intemperance, simply because the habitual but moderate use has so impaired the functions of animal mechanism, that the habit is, in most cases, begun long before the unhappy victim suspects the sligh est danger.—One of the first points which we wish to establish from facts furnished by American experience, is, *that the most laborious and exhausting employments not only do not require the aid of ardent spirits, but that they can be carried on equally well, and even with much better health, energy, and profit, without them than with them.* The following extracts from various American papers will show that, in the operations of farming and building, and in other employments exposing the body to great fatigue and to the extremes of heat and cold, they have been proved to be altogether unnecessary:—*Shepherd's Town*: The Temperance Society of this town held their first annual meeting, Aug. 13. Nearly half the members are farmers, all of whom have gone through the labours of harvest with a very diminished use of ardent spirits; and some of them without the use of a single half gill;—work done better—labourers quiet and peaceable, without profane swearing, &c.—*Worcester County*: One of the largest farmers in this county has used no spirits on his farm the present year, and he has ascertained that he has done all the work of cutting and making hay this summer *with 85 days less labour than during the last season, when ardent spirits were freely used by his workmen.* Besides, not one of the numerous hands employed by him was prevented from labouring a single hour on account of illness during the hay season. —*Middlebury*: A respectable farmer used spirits last year in haying and harvesting. But in the fall he butchered 27 hogs in a very cold day without a drop—and this spring had 400 sheep washed and no spirits used. He has proved that cold and wet can be endured without rum—and he has done with it.—A missionary, under date October 1, 1828, says, "Several farmers of my parish have informed me that they have tried the experiment of abstinence, and found it salutary beyond the recommendation. Some who have never been known to drink what is called *too much*, but who have used gallons during the war, weather heretofore, tell me that they have not used so many quarts this season as gallons in former seasons; and yet that they have got along with their work fully as well, and as to health, feel a great deal better. Two young men, recently from M., tell me that they have been in the habit of making a free use of spirits in past years, and that they never got through with their haying and harvesting without being laid up for a week or more in each season, with complaints of the stomach and bowels—this year they have drank none—have worked harder, and have not lost a day by ill health."

British Soldiers in Spain.—We shall never forget an anecdote of a circumstance that followed the capture of Badajos, related to us by a distinguished veteran officer, now a General in his Majesty's service. He described, as only an officer and an eye-witness can describe, the horrible nature of the task the troops had to encounter, in consequence of the shortness of the scaling ladders, in scrambling up the wall of Badajos, whilst the enemy hurled them down, man after man, in quick succession, into the ditch below, where they were instantly suffocated in the filth, as it was the common sewer of the city. On gaining the town, however, in spite of the commanding position and vigorous resistance of the enemy, it was necessarily abandoned for some hours to the fury of the troops. In turning the angle of a street, on the way to his quarters, he met a young and delicate Spanish lady, evidently of elevated rank, shrieking and running at her utmost speed before a party of English soldiers. Perceiving his rank by his dress and bearing, she threw herself imploringly upon his protection; he commanded the men to desist, and drew his sword to enforce his orders; the men levelled their muskets and demanded as a matter of right, that he should instantly retire, or they would shoot him, and he was compelled to abandon that miserable lady to their brutal violence.—*Dublin Literary Gazette.*

Mr Cobbett.—(From a Correspondent in Liverpool.)—"Liverpool, Jan. 1, 1830.—Being anxious to see that Cameleon Politician, the Man for the People, William Cobbett, I proceeded last night to the Lecture Room, Music Hall. The room was respectably filled. Cobbett was received with considerable applause: he seemed about 60 years of age, his hair snow white, his appearance extremely prepossessing, and the general contour of his countenance bearing in my mind a forcible resemblance to that of the lamented Sir H. Moncrieff; his head, phrenologically speaking, was good, his forehead high, but not very perpendicular, the head generally large, evincing power. He was dressed in a claret coloured coat, drab unmentionables, and top boots, and in my opinion presented a favourable specimen of the appearance of a Yeoman of the best description. His delivery was fluent and unembarrassed, seldom rising above the colloquial style, but exhibiting great want of connexion. He did not seem deficient in a low kind of wit, and laughed with great glee at his own jokes, some of which were sufficiently dull and pointless; like many men of talent, though the converse is far more frequently the case, his pen is more powerful than his tongue, and "lecture speeches," as he calls them, do not appear to be his forte; he wants conciseness, deals too much in generalities, and is apt to run away with a favourite topic.—*The Scotsman.*

Advantage of Short Stages in drawing Heavy Loads.—Mr Stuart Menteath of Closeburn, proprietor of one of the richest coal fields in the island, both as to quantity and quality, has very successfully employed horse power to the drawing of heavy loads, by dividing the road into short stages. Before this expedient was resorted to, each horse could travel the distance of only 18 miles and return with a load of 24 cwt. thrice a week; that is to say, the aggregate of the labour of each horse amounted to 3 tons 2 cwt. weekly. But by dividing that distance into four stages of 4½ miles each, four horses can make three trips daily, and draw a load of 33 cwt. each trip, or very nearly 5 tons daily, or 30 tons weekly. Hence, according to this method, the aggregate of the labour of each horse amounts to above 7 tons weekly. Suppose 16 horses are employed, instead of making them travel 18 miles one day, and return with a load the following, the more advantageous plan is, to arrange them in 4 divisions, and make each division travel only 4½ miles in succession. Were this distance divided into 6 stages, the load might be proportionally increased, with less fatigue to the horses. For it will invariably be found that the most profitable mode of applying the labour of horses, is to vary their muscular action, and revive its tone by short and frequent intervals of repose. Mr Stuart Menteath considers the same principle equally applicable to ploughing. Instead of 2 yokings as at present, of 4 hours each, were 3 yokings of 2½ hours each, substituted, the horses would be less exhausted, and more work accomplished.—*Scotsman.*

A lady of quality, very much displeased with the indecision displayed by M. d'Aguesseau in a suit in which she was concerned, addressed him thus:—"Sir, there is one thing I can by no means comprehend,—you, who know everything, can decide nothing; and M. Defresne, your son, who knows nothing, is willing to decide everything."—*Foreign Literary Gazette.*

The New Police.—An order was lately sent from the New Police Commissioners to suspend a serjeant and officer, who were on duty the evening previous, when a daring robbery was committed on the premises of Mr Gwynne, Caroline street, Bedford square. The robbers made their entry from an adjoining house, which is uninhabited, and succeeded in getting into the up-stairs rooms, where they took a jewel case and a quantity of silver plate. The robbers got clear off with their booty.—*Daily Paper.*—[This is the right way to proceed when public officers neglect their duty; but we hope the course adopted will not be limited to the minor officers of Government: Are there not some grandees upon whom the penalty of "suspension" might have a salutary influence?]

A model of a "steam carpenter," by which boards or planks are planed, grooved, and tongued, at one operation, is exhibited at the hall of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia.

THE COLLECTIVE WISDOM.

(From "The Devil's Drive," in Moore's Life of Byron.)

The Devil got next to Westminster,
And he turn'd to "the room" of the Commons;
But he heard, as he purposed to enter in there,
That "the Lords" had received a summons;
And he thought, as a "*quondam* Aristocrat,"
He might peep at the peers, though to *hear* them were flat:
And he walk'd up the House so like one of our own,
That they say he stood pretty near the throne.

He saw the Lord L————l seemingly wise,
The Lord W————d certainly silly,
And Johnny of Norfolk—a man of some size—
And Chatham, so like his friend Billy;
And he saw the tears in Lord E—n's eyes,
Because the Catholics would *not* rise,
In spite of his prayers and his prophecies;
And he heard—which sat Satan himself a staring—
A certain Chief Justice say something like *swearing*.
And the Devil was shock'd—and quoth he "I must go,
For I find we have much better manners below.
If thus he harangues when he passes my border,
I shall hint to friend Moloch to call him to order."

Adulterations of Porter.—I have spoken of the adulterations of malt liquor, and particularly of porter. These I have reason to believe are very extensive, for the immense influence and capitals of the principal houses defy all competition, and whatever liquor they may please to designate by the name of *Porter* must eventually pass current with the multitude. Now, porter, like ale, ought to be brewed of malt and hops only, the colour and flavour being derived from a certain portion of *burnt or roasted* malt, about one to forty or fifty, according to the colour required; and from the observations I have made, I do not doubt that such is the practice at all large *breweries*: but, I know, also, that a great deal of adulteration is carried on by the retail dealer. Quassia, gentian, buckbean, liquorice, and sugar, we might excuse, on the score of their comparative harmlessness—but we cannot say this of nux vomica, cocculus indicus, opium, tobacco, sulphate of iron (*green copperas*), the different preparations of potass and lime, aloes, jalap, &c. as they are all more or less inimical to health; and are frequently used by the publican to increase the quantity of his porter. The following recipe for five barrels, will show you how porter can be made; it is copied from Sam Child's "Every Man his own Brewer." One quart of malt, eight pounds of hops, six pounds of treacle, eight pounds of liquorice root, eight pounds of essentia bina (a preparation of sugar), half an ounce of capsicum; two ounces of Spanish liquorice; one ounce of cocculus indicus; quarter of an ounce of salt of tartar; quarter of an ounce of heading, or copperas; three ounces of ginger; four ounces of slacked lime; one ounce of linseed; and a quarter of an ounce of cinnamon." Such is the stuff that has been sold for porter, and there is a great deal hourly consumed in this city, not a whit more wholesome or genuine. It has been urged that the quantities of these several articles of adulteration, especially of the copperas, are so small in their divided proportions as not to be hurtful. This may be true if we restrict ourselves to a certain quantity of porter daily; but, surely, what we take by draughts and mouthfuls is quite as important in its effects as the medicines we take by grains and scruples; and if we do require any of these narcotic abominations, let us seek them at the druggist's, and not at the publican's. Let us have the heavy duties on malt repealed, or modified, and the publican will not then be induced to sophisticate his beverage, nor will the brewer be driven to *search* his malt at too high a temperature, and attenuate his beer too much in the fermentation. The poor and working man will get a nourishing draught of porter at a moderate price, and those pests of all large towns, and of none more than of London, the cheap spirit shops, will be abandoned.

Musical Tricks.—At some entertainments which were given by the emperor, the ambassadors had an opportunity of witnessing the surprising skill of the Chinese jugglers and dancers. They also remarked a whimsical exhibition of dexterity in the case of two musicians, who played together the same air, each having one hand on his own flute and the other on that of his companion.—*Dr Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Vol. II.—History of Maritime and Inland Discovery, Vol. I.*

Jefferson's Decalogue of Canons for Observation in Practical Life.—1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.—2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.—3. Never spend your money before you have it.—4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.—5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.—6. We never repent of having eaten too little. 7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.—8. How much pain have cost us the evils which have never happened.—9. Take things always by their smooth handle.—10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, a hundred.

Maternal Affection.—It happened a few years ago, that a poor woman in the South of France, while she was busied in her garden, had the misfortune to be attacked by a wolf, who tore a hole in her side. The animal was accidentally frightened and fled. The poor woman, feeling the injury was mortal, but, even in the extremity of her sufferings, intent on the wants of her little infant whom she had left in the house, applied her hand to the wound to close it, and returning to her child gave suck to the babe and then expired.—*Crombie's Natural Theology.*

Washington hostile to Parade.—When the President went to New York, he resisted for three weeks the efforts to introduce levees. At length he yielded, and left it to Humphreys and others to settle the forms. Accordingly an anti-chamber and presence-room were provided; and when those who were to pay their court were assembled, the President set out, preceded by Humphreys. After passing through the anti-chamber, the door of the inner-room was thrown open, and Humphreys entered first, calling out with a loud voice, "the President of the United States." The President was so much disconcerted with it, that he did not recover it the whole time of the levee; and when the company was gone, he said to Humphreys, "Well, you have taken me in once, but, by God! you shall never take me in a second time."—*Jefferson's Memoirs.*

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Thursday, Jan. 14.

LIBEL.—WATTS v. LAWSON.

Mr Denman addressed the Jury in this case. It was an action for a libel, published in the *Times* newspaper, contained in a Police Report of a transaction, in which the plaintiff, Mr Alario Alexander Watts, the Editor of the *Souvenir*, and two of his friends, Mr Emerson and Mr T. K. Harvey, also literary men, had taken a part.—From the evidence, it appeared that Mr Emerson, who was residing at the house of Mr Watts, in Torrington-square, had agreed to purchase a dressing-case of Mr Levy, a salesman in Hemmings Row, valued at 18gs. Mr Emerson was to give for it 10gs. in money, an old dressing-case, and some left-off clothes. A boy took the dressing-case to Torrington-square, but was told not to leave it without the money. The boy, however, did leave it, bringing back the old dressing-case and clothes only, having been told to call again in the evening for the 10gs. Mr Levy sent the boy back directly for the money. Mr Emerson had then gone out to procure it. Levy himself proceeded to the house, where he was told by Mr Watts that Mr Emerson was gone out, but would return soon, and that his money was safe. Levy, however, became irritated, used very violent language, called Mr Emerson and Mr Watts swindlers and thieves, and, seeing his dressing-case in the parlour, endeavoured to seize upon it. This Mr Watts prevented. Levy continued his violence, and Mr Watts laid his hand on his arm to put him out of the house. Upon this Levy opened the door, called out "Thieves" and "Murder!" and collected a great crowd before the door. Mr Watts sent his servant to Marlborough-street for a Police Officer. The Officer came, took Levy and the dressing-case into his custody, by desire of Mr Emerson, who, with Mr Watts, attended at the office to complain of the conduct of Levy. The case, however, was not heard till two days after, as Good Friday intervened, and on the Monday the report complained of appeared in the *Times*, although Mr Watts had previously informed the Editor that Levy's statement to the Magistrate was an *ex-parte* one, which he hoped would not therefore be published. On the appearance of this report, Mr Watts sent a counter-statement to the *Times*, but the insertion of it was declined, unless 5gs. were paid for it as an advertisement. An action was threatened, and some negociation took place with Mr Platt, the Solicitor of the *Times*; but it ended in nothing, as the *Times*, though it would have inserted a letter on the subject from the Solicitor of Mr Watts, declined the insertion of a paragraph as from itself, disapproving its former report of the transaction in question. That report (it was proved in evidence) contained various mis-statements and errors, Mr Denman contended, calculated to injure the character of Mr Watts, who, it was made to appear, had joined Mr Emerson in assaulting Mr Levy, and acting otherwise in a disgraceful manner.

After Mr Emerson, Col. Leicester Stanhope, Mr T. K. Hervey, and other witnesses on the part of Mr Watts, had been examined,

The Attorney-General addressed the Jury for the Defendant. He said that Mr Watts had been the Editor of a Leeds newspaper, and since that had written for a more distinguished journal, the *Standard*. He did not respect him the less for that; but as Mr Watts had been an Editor himself, he should have learnt to make allowances for others, knowing the difficulties by which they were surrounded. He (Sir J. Scarlett), however, had observed that gentlemen who acted as Editors were more sensitive than others, when their own conduct was in any way questioned;—it was part of their particular trade to exhibit greater sensibility than any other persons whatever.—Sir James then proceeded to contend that there was nothing libellous in the report of the *Times*; that the *Times* would have admitted gratuitously any statement impugning the correctness of its report, but not one in vindication of the parties charged, unless it was paid for as an advertisement; that Mr Emerson had acted with indiscretion in the transaction, but that was no reason why Mr Watts should be so sensitive: that Levy had sent back the old clothes and dressing-case, and claimed his own property, as he had not received the price for it; but as neither Mr Watts nor his friend Mr Hervey had money enough about them to supply their friend Mr Emerson with funds to meet the Jew's claim, what was Levy to think of the transaction?—was it not natural for him to suppose that he had been done out of the dressing-case?—Mr Watts did not tell him that Mr Emerson was gone out to procure the money, or else he would have been satisfied; Levy's violent conduct, therefore, under all the circumstances, was very natural, as he could only suppose that he had fallen into bad hands, and that it was intended to diddle him out of his dressing-box. Mr Watts and his friends had been inaccurate, and made mistakes in their representations—was no allowance to be made for those of the Editor of the *Times*? There was no imputation on the honour of Mr Watts, and therefore the Jury would give their verdict for the Defendant.

Lord Tenterden told the Jury that the Defendant had offered no evidence in support of his plea, and the Plaintiff's evidence had negatived certain parts of it, which, in his judgment, reflected on the Plaintiff's character. The Jury would take the newspaper, and upon reading it, consider whether the Plaintiff had not been represented in it as endeavouring to assist Mr Emerson in retaining this dressing-case, without giving the money which he had bargained for it.—On receiving the dressing-case, Mr Emerson was not prepared with the money which it was stipulated he should pay on the delivery of it. What then ought Mr Emerson as a gentleman to have done? Beyond all question, he ought to have returned the box, and not have induced the boy to give it up to him in violation of his master's orders. It had been well observed by the learned Attorney-General, that the statement of the Plaintiff and of Mr Emerson was not a complete statement of the facts. But that was not the objection made by the Defendant to publishing those statements. He received one of them, and said that if the parties chose, he would publish it as an advertisement for 5gs. He then took it, made sundry erasures, and then declared that

he would not publish it, even as an advertisement, unless he received a larger sum than 5gs. The trade of a newspaper will be lucrative indeed, if it is tolerated that those who conduct them shall be at liberty to insert a libel against any man one day, and shall then make that man pay a large sum the next for the liberty of inserting a refutation. The Editor, however, had offered to insert a statement of the facts which Mr Watts's solicitor might draw up; and that was a point which it would undoubtedly be their duty to take into consideration. The real question to decide was this:—Is the fair and natural import of this publication such as to cast a serious imputation on the character of Mr Watts, the Plaintiff? If they should be of opinion that its import was of such a description, then their verdict must be for the plaintiff; otherwise, not.

The Jury deliberated for about ten minutes, and then returned a Verdict for the Plaintiff—Damages, 50*l*.

SURREY SESSIONS—Jan. 12.

Gaol Allowance.—Mr H. Sumner called the attention of the Magistrates to the allowance of food given to some of the prisoners in the House of Correction at Brixton, which he deemed excessive.—Mr Gardiner, the surgeon of the prison, explained, that as some of the prisoners had suffered in health from the effects of hard labour and insufficient diet, he had deemed it a duty, both to those who employed him and to his fellow-creatures generally, to increase the allowance of food in such cases, to prevent disease and suffering.—Mr Sumner said, that the relaxed state of discipline, and the indulgence with respect to food, amounted to nothing less than an invitation to the dissolute to get into the House of Correction at Brixton for the winter, for certainly most of them could obtain there more food than they could procure at home.—Mr Woolley said, the ordinary allowance at Brixton per week was 10½ pints of gruel, 10½ of soup, 1lb. of beef, 5½lbs. of potatoes, and 10½lbs. of bread. Did Mr Gardiner think that enough?—Mr Gardiner replied, that generally it was enough, but not for all the prisoners, many of whom suffered from its insufficiency.—Mr Briscoe observed, that if agricultural labourers, as it was said, were willing to commit crimes in order to get within the walls of a prison—[Mr H. Sumner: "I know it."]—then what a state of society did that prove? for rather than encounter the distress which assailed them, they were anxious to enter upon the severe, cruel, and unusual labour of the tread-mill, and be separated from their homes and families!—Sir T. Turton thought the matter should be referred to the Visiting Magistrates. He did not believe that the increase of crime was wholly attributable to the distress of the people—the "march of intellect" had something to do with it. (*A laugh.*) He objected to putting females on the tread-mill.—The Chairman stopped the conversation, as there was no motion before the Court.

Coal Trade.—A conversation ensued upon the presentation of the Coal Report, from which it appeared that the grossest frauds were practised upon the public. Complaints were made of the comparative inefficiency of some of the coal-meters executing the provisions of the last meterage act; and it was said, that while one (Mr Turquaud) of them had, since the act was passed, prosecuted in 65 cases, the two others had only proceeded with 21.—The report was received.

Poor Debtors.—Upon the bringing up of the report of the visiting magistrates, to whom the petition of the debtors confined in Horsemonger lane gaol, for an increased allowance of food, fuel, clothing, &c. had been referred by Mr Peel, it was stated that the Magistrates rejected the general complaints of these debtors, and only recommended that during the winter they should have an additional blanket.—Mr Briscoe observed, that the poor debtors were absolutely worse off than the felons, who had a flock bed, &c. to lie upon, while the debtors had a canvas hammock and a single rug only. Did the Court think that one pound and a half of bread, and one pint of gruel, for four days in the winter, and of 1½lb. of bread, with 1lb. of meat made into soup, on the other three, was sufficient for these poor creatures? Not above one-third of the prisoners were able to support themselves, and the rest were thrown on the county allowance. Amongst other cases, there was one where the original debt was 5*s*. 2*d*, the costs amounted to 9*s*.; in another, the debt had been 7*s*., and the cost 5*s*. 2*d*.—of this the poor man had paid 2*s*., and was then again taken in execution for the sum of 13*s*. 6*d*., to which the additional costs made his debt amount; and this was owed by a man who was only able to earn 1*s*. 4*d*. a day, and whose wife and children were chargeable on his parish; it was worthy of remark, also, that the whole of the debt was for bread only!—[The Chairman here said that the Hon. Magistrate was out of order!]—Mr Briscoe added, that all the debtors should be allowed to receive whatever food their friends might chuse to send them; and he gave notice of a motion to this effect.—The Report was then confirmed.

Game Laws.—Mr Briscoe, after some prefatory remarks, strongly condemning the Game Laws, moved that the Court do convey, through the members for the county, to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the expression of its deep regret that his Majesty's Government have not considered it their peculiar duty to bring forward measures for the amendment of the Game Laws, which are universally admitted to be the fruitful parent of many grievous crimes, and daily tend to demoralize the people.—The motion was supported by Messrs Drummond, Denison, Palmer, and Jackson—and opposed by Sir Thomas Turton, Mr Crawford, and Mr H. Sumner, who deemed all interference of the Magistrates highly impolitic, although he thought that these laws required revision.—On a division, the motion was negatived by 11 to 7.

POLICE.

UNION HALL.

The Fatal Duel.—On Tuesday, *Mr Dudley Byrne*, was brought before the Magistrates, charged with having assisted in the late fatal duel. He was Mr Clayton's clerk, and Lieutenant Cox (who is now confined in the Marshalsea prison, having been arrested for debt) had said, that but for Mr Byrne's interference in the dispute, it would have been easily adjusted. This Mr Byrne denied, saying, that if Mr Cox had asserted this, it was untrue.—It was proved that he was on the ground at Battersea, and assisted in carrying the deceased after he had been shot.—Hall, the chief constable, said he had visited the ground with a gentleman whom he supposes to have been related to the deceased. The spot where the parties stood was pointed out to them, and the gentleman declared that it was one of the most scandalously conducted "affairs of honour" that perhaps ever had occurred. The hour at which the parties met was dark, and notwithstanding, they were allowed to fire at one another. The situation in which Mr Clayton stood, also, gave his adversary a decided advantage over him, for the former gentleman was placed close to a dark-coloured high wall, out of which projected what is called a spar, which was of a light colour; he stood, it appeared, close to this object, and it was easily distinguished from the spot from whence he received the fire of Mr Lambrecht.—Mr Byrne's commitment to the County Gaol having been made out, he was sent there.

On Wednesday, *Mr Lambrecht*, who had surrendered himself, was brought up for examination. After the duel he returned to town, but finding that it was the general topic of conversation, he withdrew from his usual residence, fearing that he should be discovered, wandered about the streets, and, it is said, for three nights he had not lain down on a bed. On Tuesday evening, being quite exhausted, he went into a public-house, where he drank to excess, and then gave himself up to Fisher, a police officer, in Piccadilly. Being called upon for his defence, Mr Lambrecht said, that on the evening of Christmas day, in conversation with Mr Clayton, he told him that he had seen him (Mr C.) receive a horsewhipping, which he had not resented. Mr Clayton, in consequence, sent him a message. A fortnight afterwards Mr Cox took up the dispute, and he (Mr Lambrecht) offered to make a verbal apology, but this Mr Clayton refused to accept, and Mr Bigley said, the business must proceed. He again, on Friday morning, offered a verbal apology, which was again declined, and the unfortunate occurrence took place. When Mr Clayton fell, he went up to him. Mr C. held out his hand to him, saying, "I forgive you, my dear friend—I forgive you."—Mr Hone here asked why Mr L. did not fire in the air?—Mr Lambrecht replied, that it would have been cowardly not to have fired at his antagonist, who would not then have had an opportunity of having a second shot at him, if he still considered that he had not received full satisfaction. They fired both together. Mr Clayton fired at him, and he had only acted as any other gentleman in his circumstances would have done.—Mr Chambers remarked, that it was a most serious business, and the prisoner must prepare himself for the worst, as the law would be carried to the fullest extent.—Mr Lambrecht said he had served as a lieutenant in the 43d, in America and at Waterloo, and had never tarnished the name of a soldier; let the result be as it might, although he deplored the event, he should endeavour to bear his misfortunes. They fought at twelve paces, though Mr Clayton wished the distance to be fourteen; but he (Mr L) was of opinion that the nearer you stood to an antagonist, the less likelihood there was of the ball taking effect. He told Mr Clayton so. That gentleman's pistols had percussion locks; his were common ones; and as to the situation on which he stood on the ground, he knew nothing about it. It was nearly dark, and the deceased had his choice of the ground.—The evidence having been read over to Mr Lambrecht, he was committed to the County Gaol, to be brought up again on Tuesday.—He is about thirty-five years of age, has lost the sight of one eye, and appeared to be much harassed.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Fatal Duel.—On Monday an inquest was held at the Red House, Battersea, to inquire into the cause of the death of *Mr Oliver Clayton*, a literary gentleman from Ireland, who lost his life in a duel with a gentleman of the name of *Lambrecht*, fought in Battersea fields on the previous Friday.—From the evidence brought forward, it appeared that Mr Clayton, before daylight, proceeded in a coach with his second, Mr Bigley, and an attendant named Wm. Price, from Wood's Hotel, Panton square, to Battersea fields, where Mr Lambrecht and his second, Lieut. Cox, were waiting for his arrival. It was about twenty minutes after six when all the parties took the ground, which was within thirty yards of the Red House. After a short conversation, the signal was given, the pistols were fired, and Mr Lambrecht's ball passed through Mr Clayton's body. He immediately fell. Mr Lambrecht approached him, saying, "Clayton, have I hurt you?" Mr Clayton stretched out his hand to Mr Lambrecht, and said, "I freely forgive you—I am a dead man."—A board was procured, and the unfortunate gentleman was taken to the Red House, when Mr Powell, a surgeon, was sent for. He examined the wound. The ball had passed through the deceased's body, having entered between the ribs on the right side, and gone out at the left, about two inches higher up. It had passed through the intestines and diaphragm. Mr Clayton asked Mr Powell how long he might survive? Mr Powell replied, that the wound was fatal, and that he was not likely to live more than twelve hours. He died at seven in the evening. In the course of the day, the deceased told Mr Powell to remember that

everything was fair and honourable; that he forgave all that had passed, and hoped that there would be no prosecution. The quarrel, he said, had arisen partly from his having been called a hypocrite by Mr Lambrecht; and he wished that the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of Tuam, the Bishop of Salisbury, and Lord Mountcashel, should be informed that that was the cause of his having been engaged in the fatal duel. He preserved his senses to the last.—The Jury brought in a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Richard Lambrecht, the principal, and Lieutenant Cox and Mr Bigley, the seconds in the duel; and the Coroner's warrant was immediately issued for their apprehension.—Mr Clayton, it appears, was a tall, handsome man, about forty years of age. The quarrel, it is said, took place at Wood's Hotel, during a discussion respecting the Catholic Bill, of which the deceased had been a warm opponent. He had renounced the Catholic faith, in which he had been educated, and which his relations at Galway still profess. During the discussion, Mr Lambrecht called him a hypocrite, and this led to the duel; for though Mr Lambrecht offered to make a verbal apology, in the presence of those who had heard the dispute, for the language he had used, Mr Clayton insisted upon a written one, which the former would not give. It is added, that before he died, he expressed his sorrow that he had not accepted the proposed verbal apology.—The deceased, it is said, had previously fought one duel, and his antagonist had been engaged in three.—A labouring man, who passed through the field at the time of the duel, had a narrow escape, for a ball whizzed close by him.

Fatal Result of Frightening a Child.—Some time ago, a lady in Yorkshire went out to take tea, and left her little family to the care of her servants. In the course of the evening she felt very uneasy, and she left her friend's house early. On arriving at her home, she found that her servants had collected a social party. This she passed over, and proceeding up stairs to the nursery, she was surprised by a terrific figure at the bottom of the bed of the youngest child, which was but three years of age. The fact was, that the nurse-maid, finding the child not very ready to go to rest, and being loath to be disturbed in her evening's enjoyment by its crying, had dressed up and placed the figure alluded to at the bottom of the infant's bed, with a view of frightening it to sleep. The contrary effect had, however, been produced—the child had been horror-struck, and appeared to its mother with its eyes fixed, in an idiotic stare, upon the image. Astonished and distressed, she rung the bell, and then proceeded to take up her infant—*but it was a lifeless corpse*—the fright had been too much for the little innocent. In the extreme of fear, the vital spark had fled, and the mother was left to mourn the credulity which induced her to trust to such a servant. It is a melancholy story, but it is not more strange than true; and we give it with no other view than to place parents upon their guard with respect to those to whom they may entrust the care of their offspring.—*York Herald.*

Two unnatural monsters are now in Warwick gaol awaiting their trial, for starving two of their infant children, both under eight years of age. The name of the father is *Samuel Baylis*, a labouring man, the mother, who was married to him about two years ago, has a former husband still living. The wretched pair have latterly resided in a miserable cot on the Moors in Alcester; and the neighbours, who had long been aware of their cruel treatment to their children, were in the habit of secretly supplying them with bread. For the three last months they had been missing, and suspicions having been excited, a police officer was sent to the dwelling of the parents, where the children were found lying on a bit of straw, with scarcely a covering to protect them from the weather, their attenuated frames bearing ample evidence of the want of food, and of the recent infliction of blows. The eldest, a girl aged seven, weighs only 14lb., and her sister, who is not quite five years of age, scarcely 13½lbs. The youngest girl, it is expected, will not recover.—*Leamington Spa Courier.*

Execution.—Monday morning, *William Banks* was executed at Horsemonger lane. He was capitally convicted of a daring burglary in the house of the Rev. Mr Warrington, at West Moulsey, in December 1828. He was a powerful man, and stood about five feet ten inches high, and his age was about 36 years; he had been for a long time connected with a formidable gang of robbers. The gang broke into Mr Warrington's premises, tied Mr Warrington and his lady and the two female servants with cords, and secured them in the cellar, whilst they rifled the house of the property. He slept during Sunday night. When his arms and wrists were pinioned by the executioner, he was left with the Rev. Mr Knight in the chapel; in the course of that gentleman's advice to him, all in a moment he called upon Christ for mercy. In a few minutes after he was removed to the gallows; the Reverend Gentleman delivered a short address, in the course of which he exclaimed, "Lord have mercy upon me!" The drop fell, and the criminal seemed to die almost immediately. Notwithstanding the intensity of the cold, and the wind from the north-east blowing a complete hurricane, an immense crowd of persons were assembled.

Suicide of Miss Charlotte Roth, the Hanoverian Young Lady.—The following are the particulars of the suicide of this young lady, and the attempt on the part of her sister Josephine. They had taken lodgings in the house of Mrs Perceval, a respectable widow lady, No. 157 Albany street, Regent's park.—The suspicion that they had poisoned themselves arose about 11 o'clock on Monday night, from the groans which were heard. On trying the door of their chamber, it was found locked; and the surviving young lady refused to open it. The watchman was called in, and the door forced, when the two ladies were found lying in bed, labouring under the effects of poison. The deceased was quite insensible, but on the other the poison had not taken a fatal hold. Their night-dress appeared to have been arranged on the occasion, their stays being kept on tight-laced and a handsome night-habit thrown over it, and on their hands they wore white kid gloves. Medical assistance was sent for, and Messrs Elkin and Lee promptly arrived, and by means of the stomach-pump succeeded in removing a quantity of laudanum and opium from their stomachs. After the process had been performed several times, an emetic was administered, and they were kept constantly walking up and down the room for four hours. This treatment, although successful in the case of Miss Josephine, proved unavailing upon her sister, who died on Tuesday morning. The poison appears to have produced little or no effect in this lady, for she was on Wednesday found sitting up in the drawing-room, having decorated her hair in a manner which showed she was not unmindful of personal appearance. She mentioned the places where the poison had been procured. That each, she said, swallowed an ounce and a half of laudanum, and afterwards a portion of opium. On being pressed to promise that she would never again attempt self-destruction, she said she could not promise any such thing. The intention of destroying themselves, she said, had been formed some days back. A letter has been sent to Lieutenant Crowther, the brother-in-law, at Deal, acquainting him with the event. The Misses Roth went to reside with Mrs Perceval about a month back. They occupied the second floor, for which they agreed to pay 30s. a-week. They appear to have had but little money when they went there, and, latterly, everything they chose to order was paid for by Mrs Perceval; a gentleman, of the name of Hare, who resides in Glocester place, having undertaken to pay everything up to Friday, before which they had promised to proceed to Deal. The same gentleman has, since the fatal event, again made himself responsible for the expenses. The pride of these ladies, particularly the deceased, appears to have been excessive, for upon Mrs Perceval once venturing to suggest to them that it was a pity, considering the state of their finances, they had not chosen less expensive apartments, the deceased indignantly replied that the apartments were not a bit too good for them.—It is not true, as at first said, that they had been in want of food. They had been well supplied.

An inquest was held on the body, on Thursday, when several witnesses were examined, but nothing new appeared. It was proved that the unfortunate ladies had been supplied with all that they required. Their attempt to destroy themselves by leaping into the Thames in June last, when a third sister was drowned, was spoken of; and the Coroner observed, that the whole family appeared to be in a state of insanity. What their sufferings had been, he did not know, but it seemed they had produced an effect on their minds, of which these were the consequences. The Jury unanimously pronounced a verdict, finding "That the deceased had committed suicide while in a state of temporary insanity."

Dreadful Fire at Sheerness.—On Friday week, a fire broke out at a shopkeeper's in the town of Sheerness, which, owing to the peculiarly combustible nature of the buildings, destroyed fifty-four houses, besides outbuildings, before it could be stopped. The loss is estimated at 30,000*l.* whereof about one-half is insured. Only two or three years ago a fire of similar extent occurred, the houses being almost wholly built of fir and weather-boarding, and being frequently covered with tarpaulin.—The *Maidstone Journal* says that the calamity was discovered at a quarter past 11 o'clock on Friday night, at which time a watchman discovered smoke issuing from the shop-door of Mr Munk, grocer, in Union street, and instantly alarmed the inmates and the neighbourhood. The violence of the flames was such that they could not be arrested until fifty houses were destroyed. The Independent Chapel, as well as the house of the minister, the Rev. J. Prankard, were slightly injured. The fire was stopped here by the application of wet blankets. No lives were lost; but in addition to the fifty houses, two coal-sheds, containing a large quantity of coals, were destroyed, and the fire was not entirely subdued till Sunday night.

Between nine and ten o'clock on Friday night, as Mrs Freeman, a widow, about 40 years of age, residing in Drury lane, was passing towards her abode, she was attacked in Blackmoor street by four monsters in the shape of men, wrapped up in fashionable cloaks, who stabbed her in the side with a small sword, such as is worn in walking-sticks. The villains broke the sword, leaving about six inches thereof sticking in Mrs Freeman's side, who instantly fell. Police Constable F. 122, who came up in a minute after, lifted Mrs Freeman, and pulled the deadly weapon from her side. He then followed the ruffians through Clare court and other alleys, but they eluded his pursuit. The monsters, we understand, are well known, and it is hoped they will not long escape justice. From the thick garments and stays worn by Mrs Freeman, the sword did not penetrate sufficiently deep to endanger any vital part.—*Times.*

MARKETS.

Corn Exchange.—Monday.—We have a good supply of English grain to-day, but trade is very languid, and Wheat may be quoted without any variation from last Monday's quotation. Oats are also as on this day week, but the business yet done has been of very little importance. The Barley trade remains nearly stationary, and the prices are nominally as we last quoted them. Beans, Peas, and other articles of grain are likewise stationary, at our former quotations.

Wheat, Kent and Essex, 60s. 72s.; Suffolk, 60s. 72s.; Norfolk, 40s. 45s. Rye, 30s. 36s. Barley, 32s. 34s. Malt, 54s. 60s. Peas, White, 32s. 34s.; Boilers, 36s. 40s.; Grey, 34s. 36s. Beans, Small, 34s. 36s.;

Tick, 32s. 35s. Oats, Potatoe, 25s. 29s.; Poland, 24s. 28s.; Feed, 18s. 24s. Flour, per sack, 55s. 60s.

FRIDAY.—Very few transactions have yet been done in Wheat, and the price of the finest parcels are quoted as on last market day. Barley likewise is nominally as we last quoted; and in the Oat trade there is nothing yet doing. Beans, Peas, and other articles of grain remain as we last quoted.

PRICE OF CORN.—(*From the Gazette.*)—General Weekly Average received in the week ended Jan. 8:—Wheat, 56s. 1d. Barley, 29s. 6d. Oats, 21s. 5d. Rye, 32s. 6d. Beans, 32s. 3d, Peas, 34s. 11d.—Aggregate Average of six weeks, which governs Duty:—Wheat, 56s. 7d. Barley, 29s. 8d. Oats, 21s. 5d. Rye, 31s. 9d. Beans, 33s. 5d. Peas, 36s. 9d.

The Average Price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending Jan. 12, is 23s. 6d. per cwt.

SMITHFIELD.—MONDAY.—Beef has declined 2d. per stone, but Mutton is about 2d. per stone better. The price for the prime young Scots this morning, is 4s. to 4s. 2d. per stone; and in the Mutton trade, prime young Downs sell at 4s 2d. to 4s. 6d. Veal, for the best young calves, fetches from 4s. 6d. to 5s. per stone; and dairy fed Porkers are 4s. 6d. to 5s. per stone; and large hogs are 3s. to 3s. 8d.

Hay, 2l. 15s. to 4l. 10s. Clover, 3l. 10s. to 5l. Straw, 1l. 16s. to 2l.

THURSDAY.—We had but a very short supply this morning of all kinds of meat, when Beef advanced 2d., Veal, 8d., and Pork 6d. per stone. but Mutton sold without the least alteration in price.—Beef, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d. Mutton, 4s. to 4s. 6d. Veal, 5s. to 5s. 8d. Pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.

MARRIED.

At Bath, the Rev. Wm. Coyte Freeland, of Coggeshall, to Mary Catherine youngest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Bingham.

George J. Twiss, Esq. Solicitor, Cambridge, to Laura Maria, youngest daughter of the late Money Hill, Esq. Waterden, Norfolk.

At Lambeth, on the 12th of January, John Wright, widower, aged 102, on the 4th of March next, to Catherine Stringer, widow, in her 50th year. The bridegroom appeared healthy, and came to the church through a snow storm without a great coat or umbrella.

DIED.

On the 7th inst. in Great Stanhope street, the Countess St Martin De Front, in the 70th year of her age.

On the 8th inst. in Davies street, Berkeley square, Anne, Countess Dowager of Galloway, in her 88th year.

On the 9th inst. at his house in Russell square, William Pratt, Esq.

On the 6th inst. at Liverpool, in the 82d year of her age, Mary, widow of the late Rev. William Enfield, LL.D.

On the 7th inst. in Chapel street, Grosvenor place, aged 42, Ann, relict of the late Dr Lettsom.

In Clonmel, at the advanced age of 103 years, Michael Ivy, a pauper. He retained his faculties to the last.

On Saturday week, Mr Morton, stock broker, had taken a seat on the coach in Bishopsgate street, for the purpose of proceeding to Waltham abbey, when he fell back a corpse. Mr Morton was in perfect health, and his family were anxiously waiting his return home to accompany them to a party, when they received the awful intelligence of his death.

In child-bed a few days ago, the Lady of Dr Southey, Physician to the King, and brother to the Poet Laureate. She was extremely beautiful and highly accomplished.—Globe.

A Woolwich, on Saturday week, Major Taylor, of the Royal Artillery. He had been spending the evening at the mess room, which he left about two in the morning: and having proceeded nearly 100 yards, fell down in a fit of apoplexy. His body was found at day-light in a sitting position, quite dead.

Lady Lee O'Meara, the wife of Barry O'Meara, in Montague square, on Wednesday. This lady's first husband was Captain Donellan, who was executed for poisoning Sir Theodosius Boughton. With the exception of an annuity of one thousand pounds to her husband, Lady Lee has left the whole of her fortune to her daughter by a former husband.

On Sunday week, Mr Robert Tarrand, of Bakewell. He was reading out a hymn to the congregation in the Independent Chapel, was struck with apoplexy, and expired immediately.

On the 29th ult. in the Isle of Thanet, Mrs Yeomans (formerly Miss Clunn), aged 100 years, being the only female born in any branch of her family for a century.

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